

# *Quantum circuits w/ classical vs quantum control of causal orders*

**Cyril Branciard**

Institut Néel – CNRS (Grenoble, France)

*Joint work w/ Julian Wechs, Alastair Abbott, Hippolyte Dourdent*

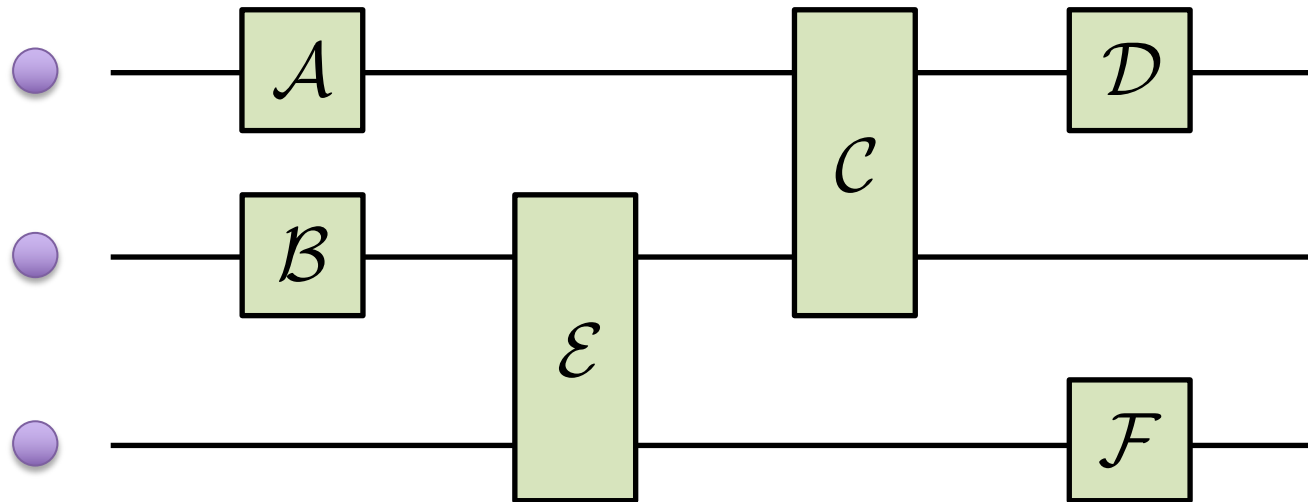
QISS Workshop — Hong Kong — Jan. 13-17, 2020



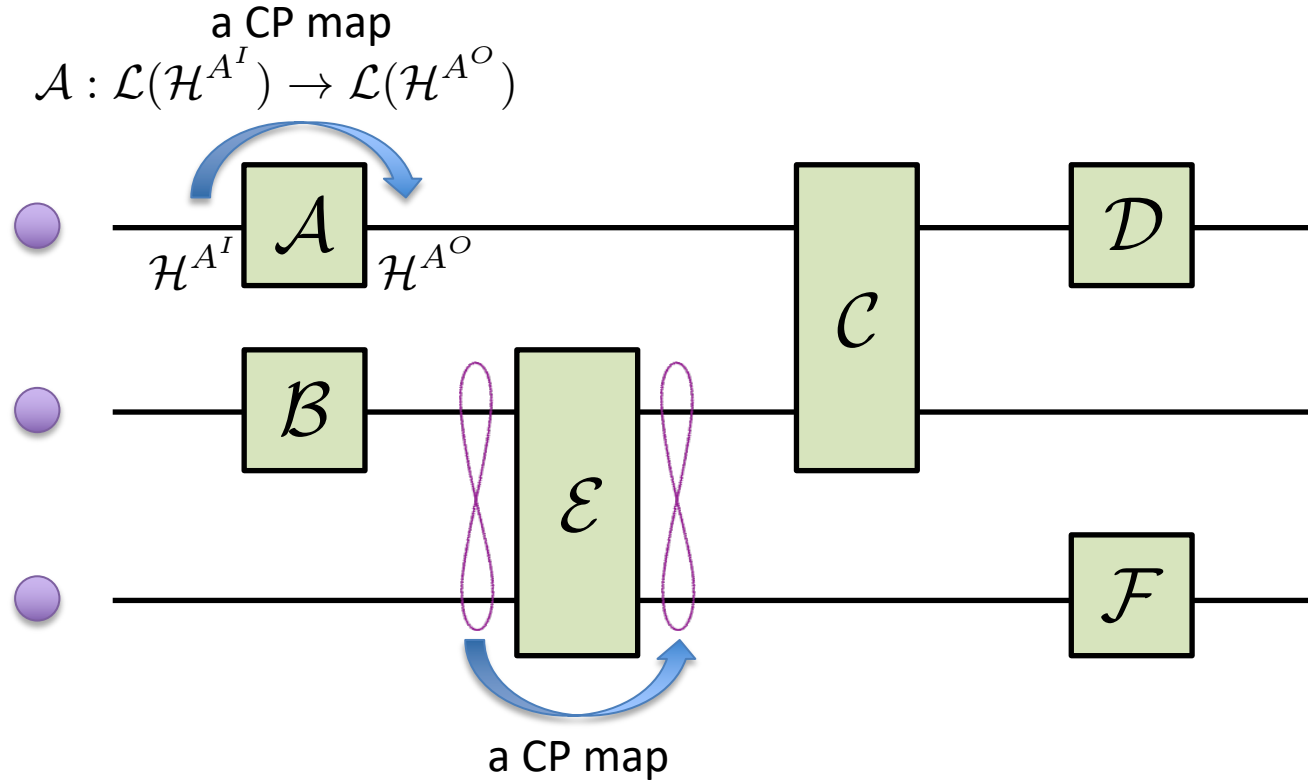
**Quantum Engineering**  
Univ. Grenoble Alpes



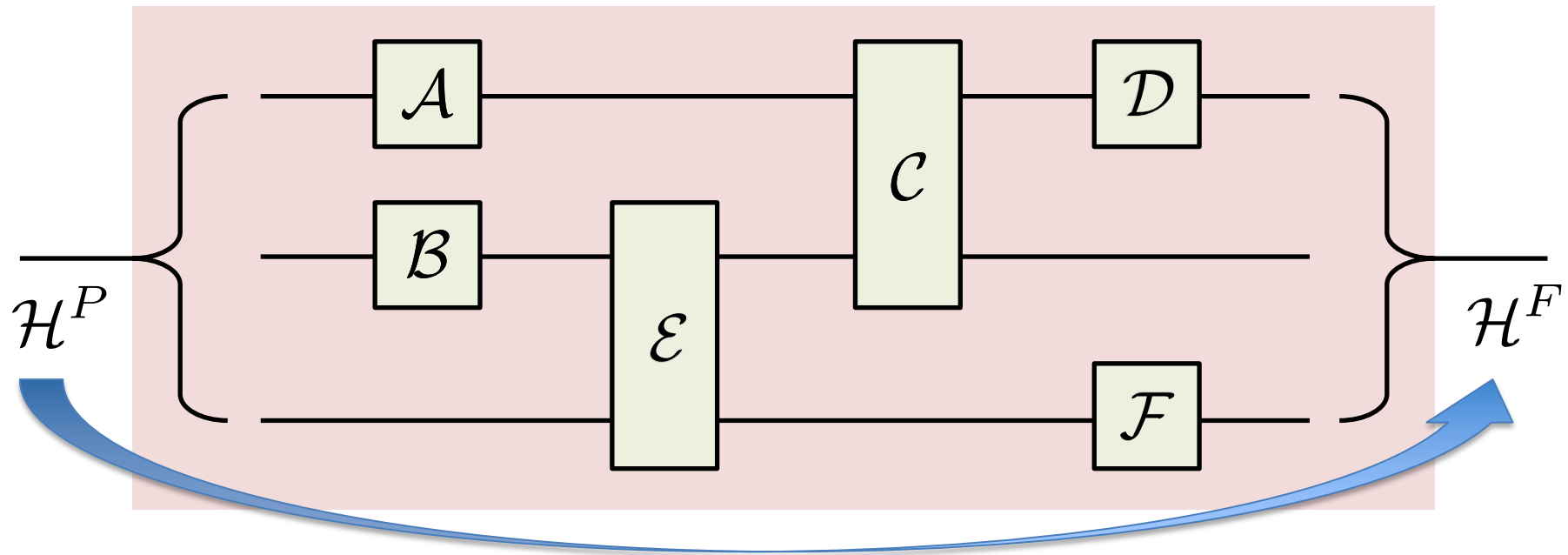
# Quantum circuits



# Quantum circuits



# Quantum circuits as quantum supermaps

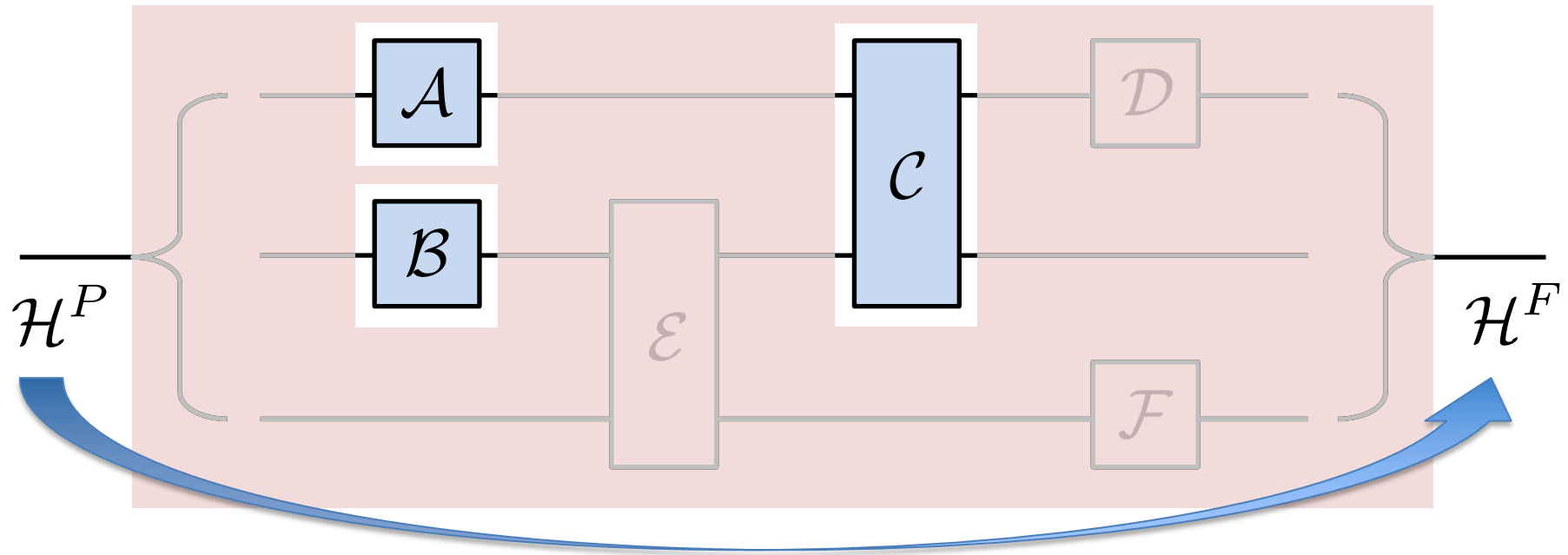


a CP map

$$\mathcal{M} : \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^P) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^F)$$



# Quantum circuits as quantum supermaps



a CP map

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$\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C})$  a quantum “supermap”

(that maps CP maps to a new CP map)

# What kind of quantum circuits are possible?

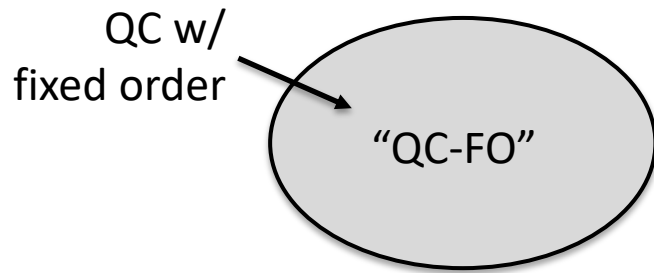
- Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order (of the CP maps  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$ ):

“Quantum combs” [Chiribella, D’Ariano & Perinotti, EPL 2008, PRL 2008, PRA 2009]

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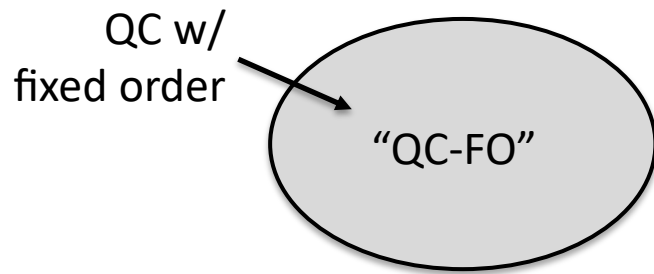
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× “classical switch”:  $\begin{cases} c = 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \text{ then } \mathcal{B} \\ c = 1 \rightarrow \mathcal{B} \text{ then } \mathcal{A} \end{cases}$

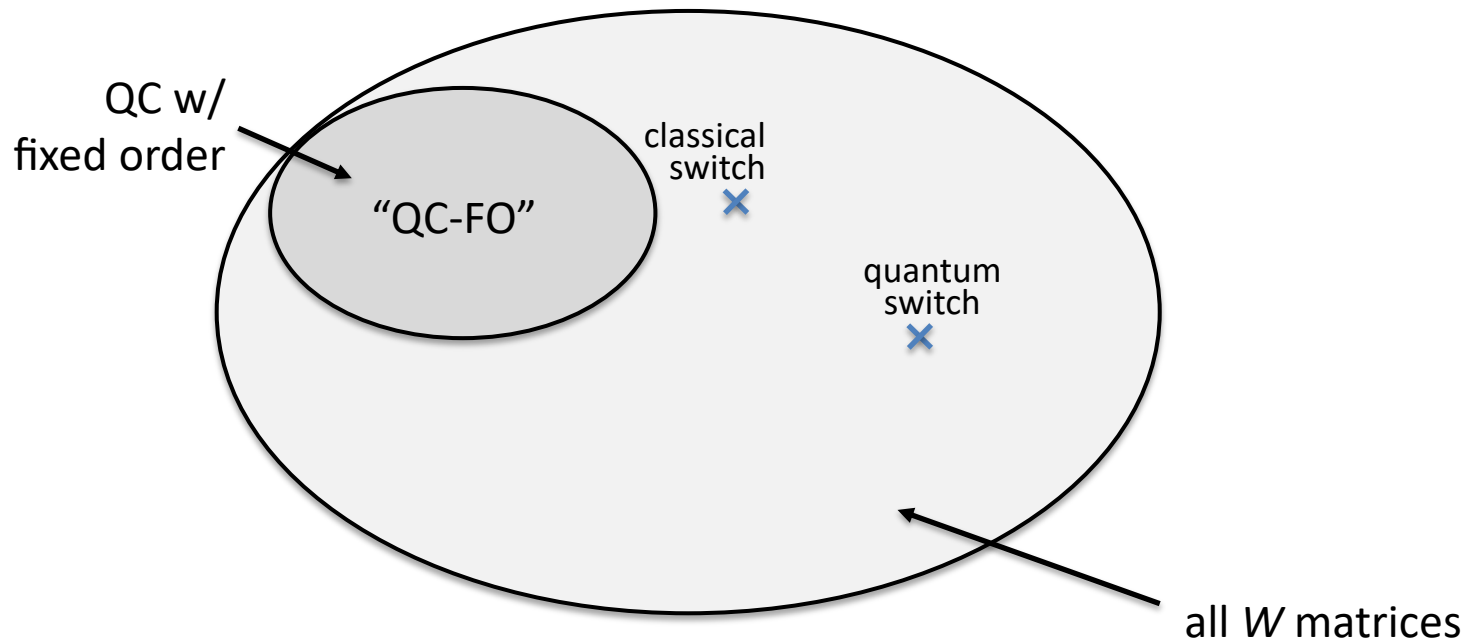
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[Chiribella *et al.*, arXiv 2009, PRA 2013]

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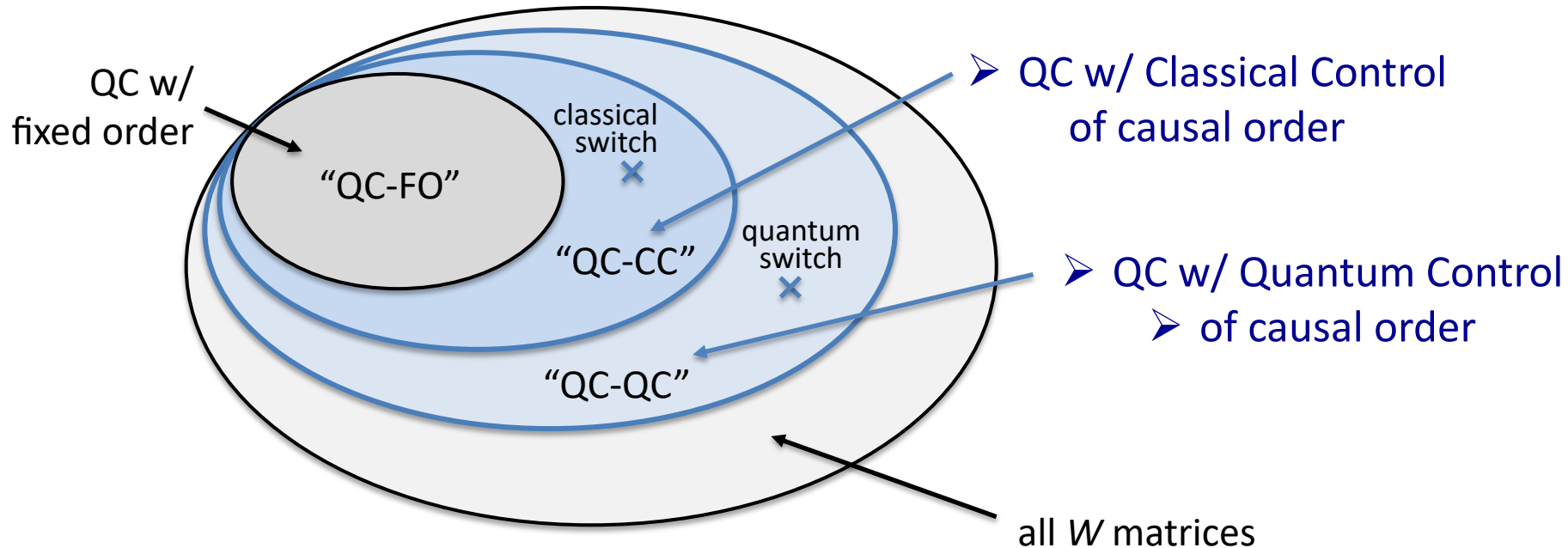
- Most general consistent quantum supermaps

“Process matrices”  $W$  [Oreshkov, Costa & Brukner, Nat Comms 2012]

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# Outline

- Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order (QC-FOs)
- Quantum Circuits with Classical Control of causal order (QC-CCs)
- Quantum Circuits with Quantum Control of causal order (QC-QCs)

(Using the process matrix framework)

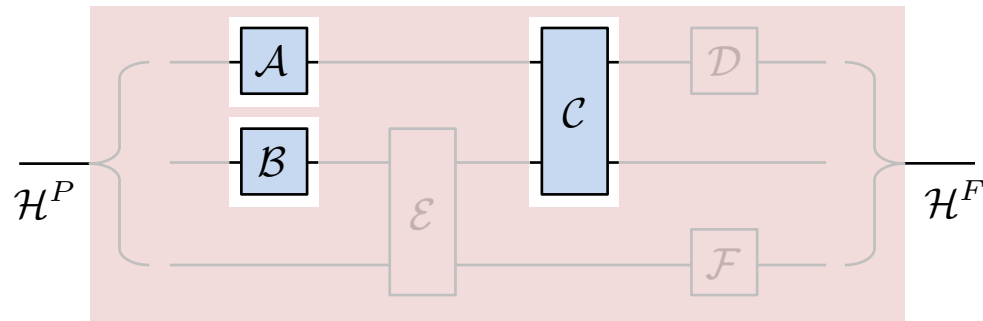
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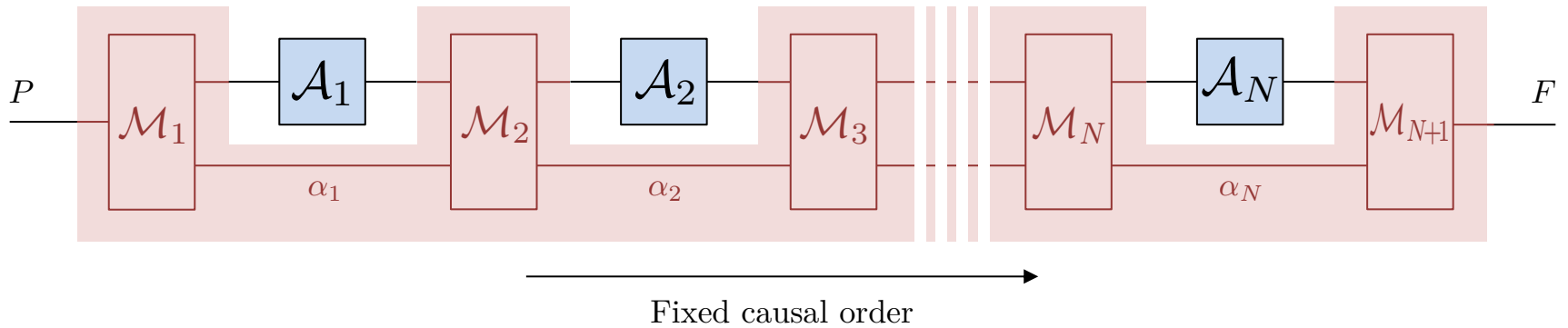
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# Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order

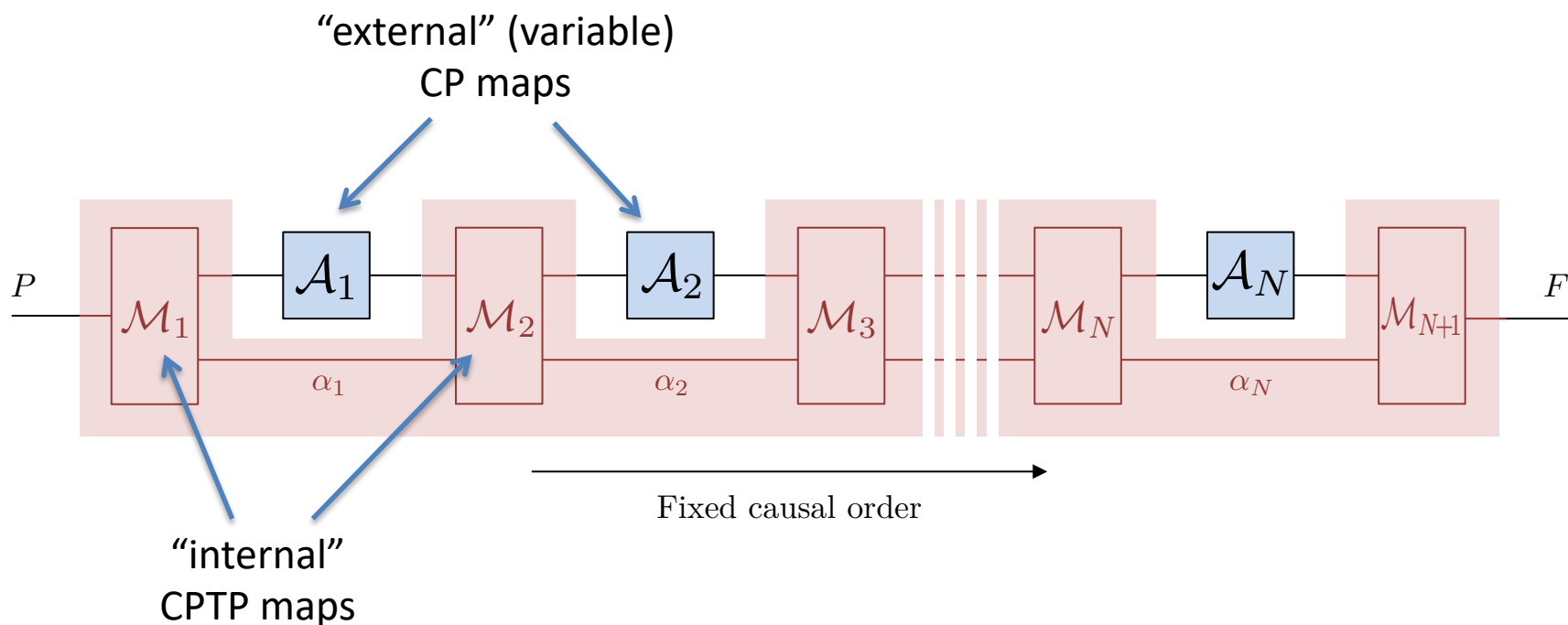


# Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order

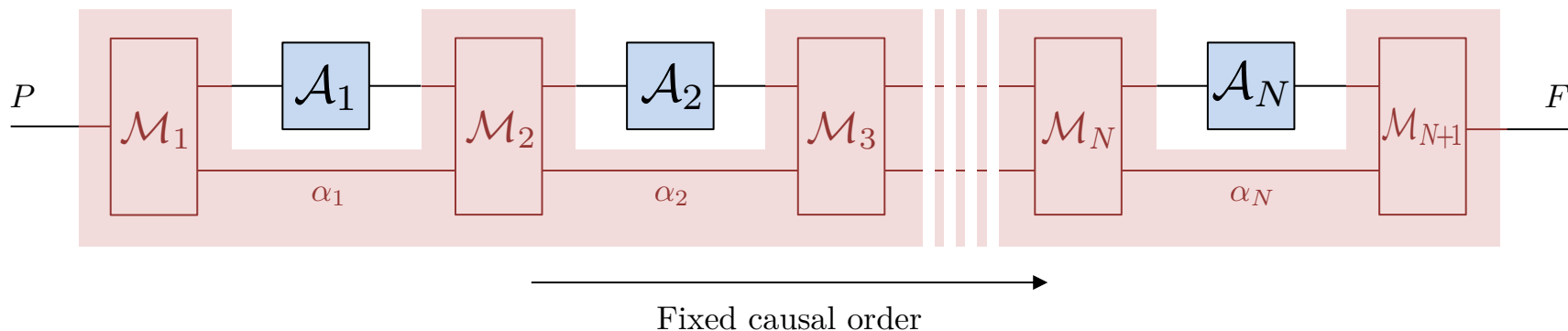


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# Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order



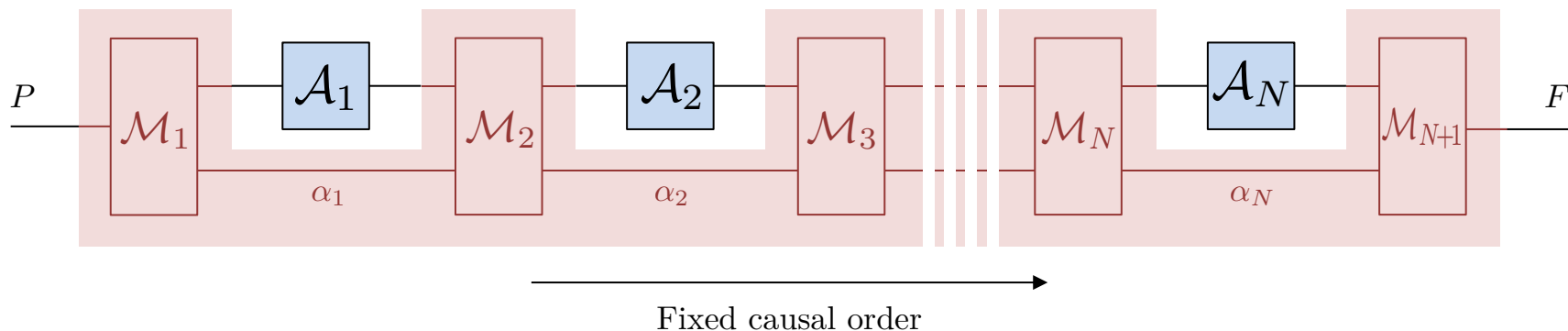
# Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order



Global induced map:

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_{N+1} \circ \mathcal{A}_N \circ \mathcal{M}_N \circ \dots \circ \mathcal{M}_3 \circ \mathcal{A}_2 \circ \mathcal{M}_2 \circ \mathcal{A}_1 \circ \mathcal{M}_1$$

# Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order



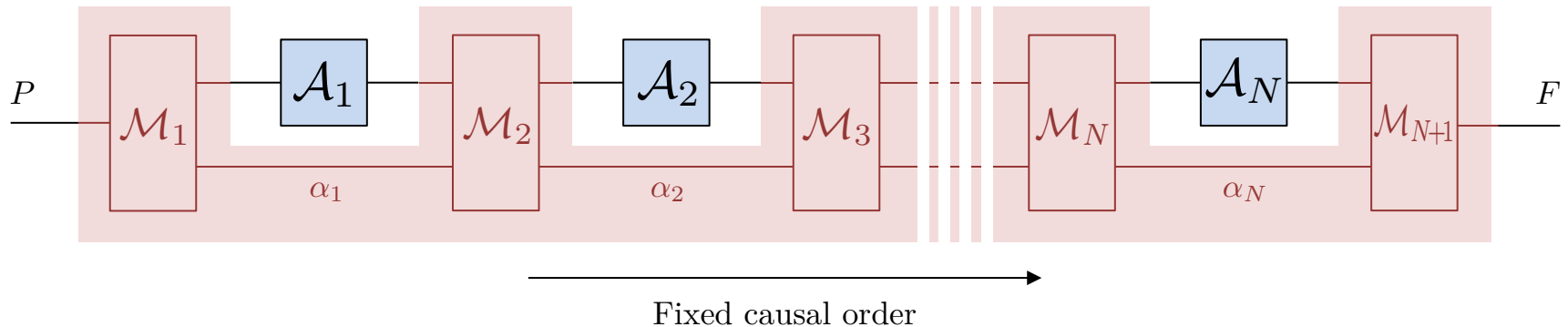
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using Choi isomorphism:

$$\mathcal{M} : \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^X) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^Y) \iff M \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^X) \otimes \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^Y)$$

# Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order



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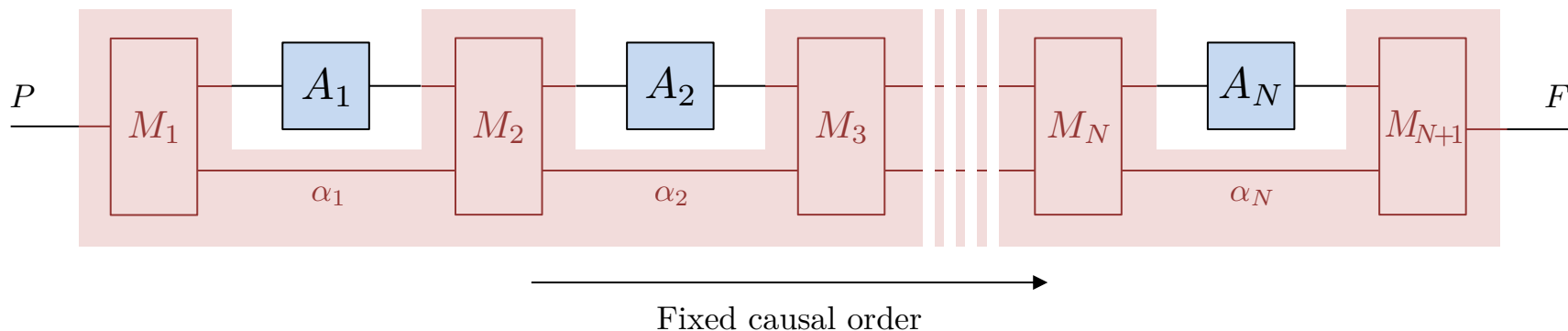
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$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_2 \circ \mathcal{M}_1 \iff M = M_2 * M_1$$

“link product”

# Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order



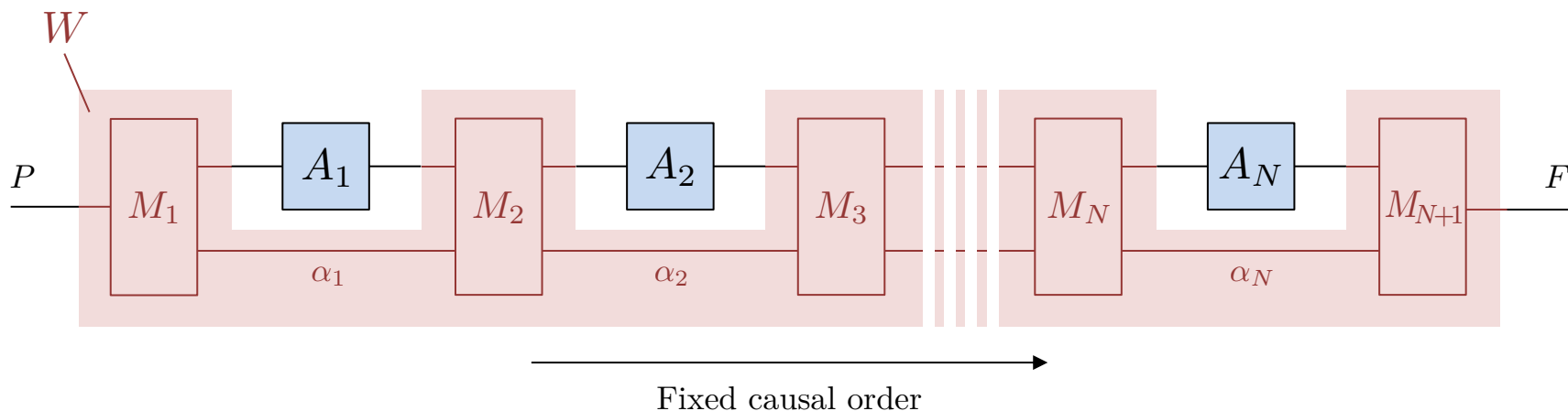
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Choi

$$M = M_{N+1} * A_N * M_N * \dots * M_3 * A_2 * M_2 * A_1 * M_1$$

# Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order



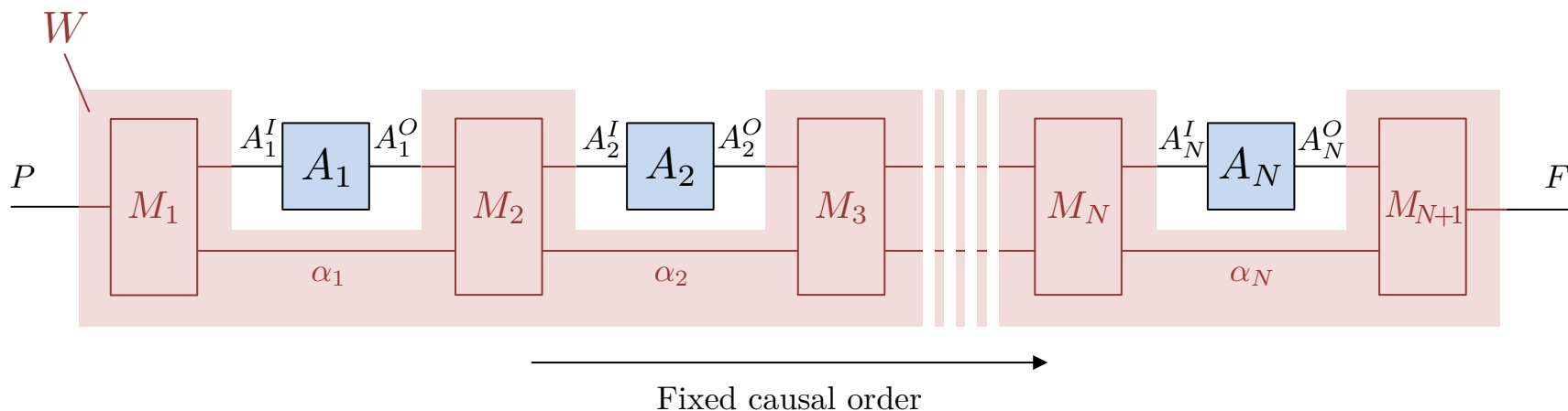
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 M &= M_{N+1} * A_N * M_N * \dots * M_3 * A_2 * M_2 * A_1 * M_1 \\
 &= \underbrace{(M_1 * M_2 * \dots * M_N * M_{N+1})}_W * (A_1 \otimes A_2 \otimes \dots \otimes A_N)
 \end{aligned}$$

Choi



# Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order



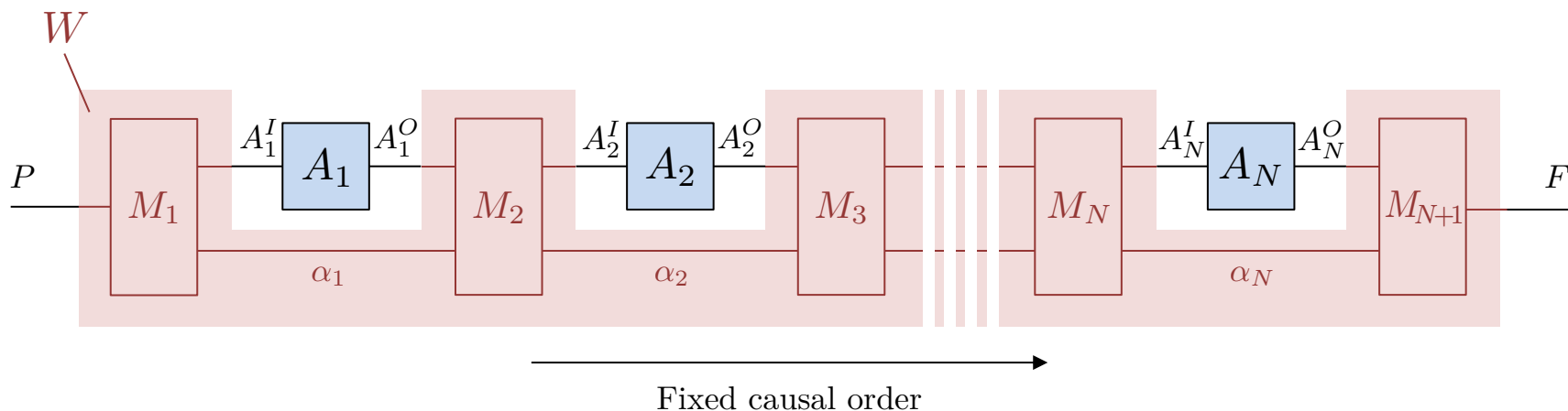
$$\Rightarrow M = W * (A_1 \otimes A_2 \otimes \dots \otimes A_N)$$

with  $W = M_1 * M_2 * \dots * M_N * M_{N+1}$

$$W \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}^{P A_1^I A_1^O \dots A_N^I A_N^O F}) \quad : \text{ a "Quantum comb"}$$

[Chiribella, D'Ariano, Perinotti, EPL 2008, PRL 2008, PRA 2009]

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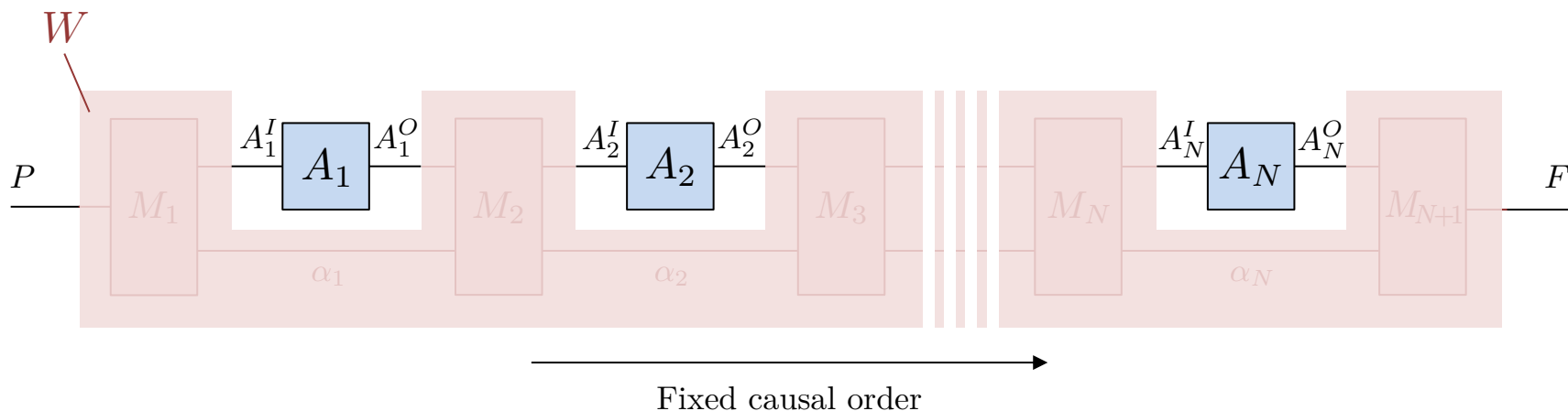
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(a "Process matrix" with fixed order)

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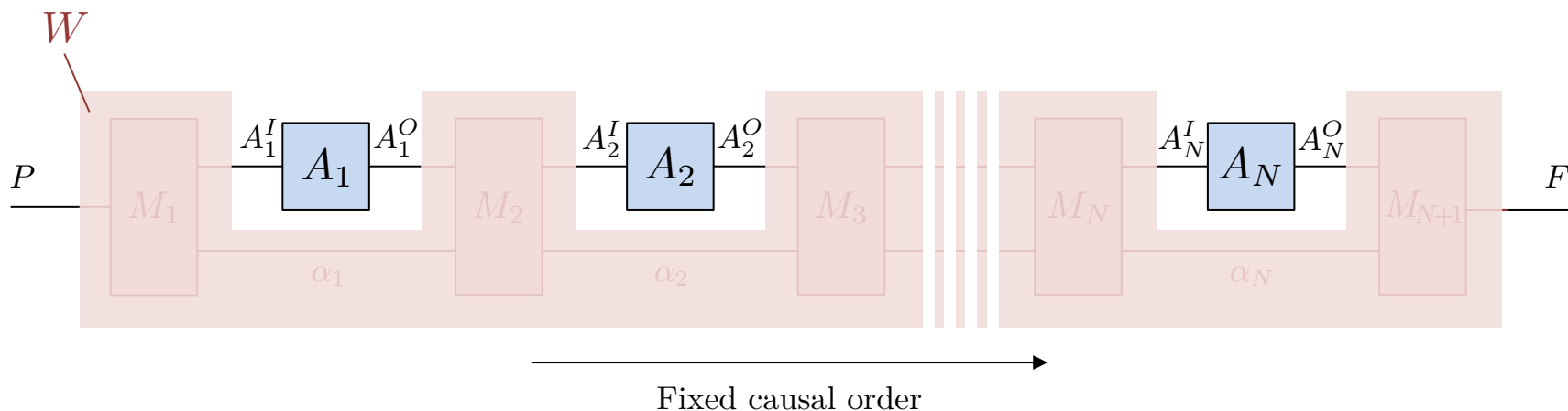
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# Quantum Circuits with Fixed causal Order



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with  $W = M_1 * M_2 * \dots * M_N * M_{N+1}$

“Causality” condition:

$$W \text{ is a QC-FO} \quad \text{iff} \quad W \geq 0 \text{ and } \forall n, \text{Tr}_{A_{n+1} \dots A_N} W = W_{(n)} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{A_n^O}$$

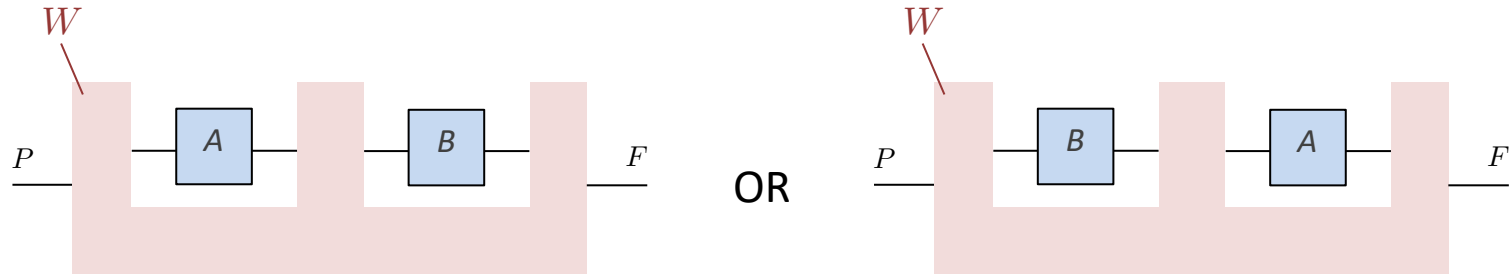
(SDP constraints)

# Outline

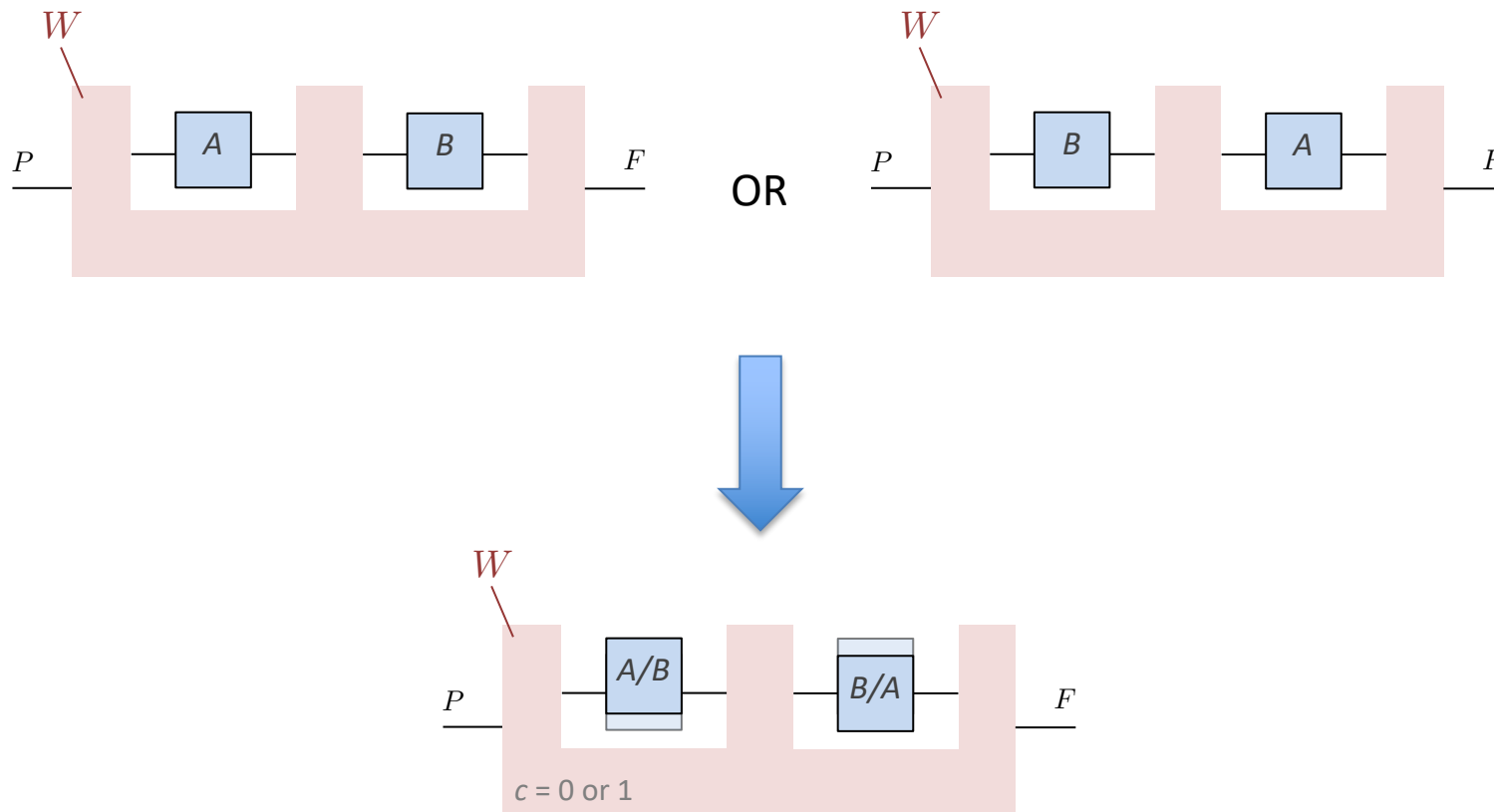
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(Using the process matrix framework)

# Controlling the causal order?



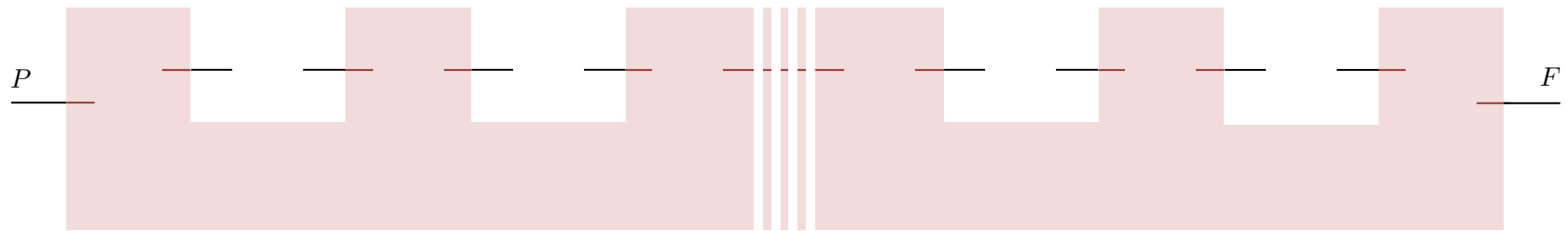
# Controlling the causal order?



$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{If } c = 0, \text{ apply } A \text{ then } B; \\ \text{If } c = 1, \text{ apply } B \text{ then } A. \end{array} \right.$

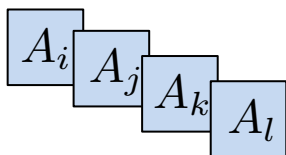
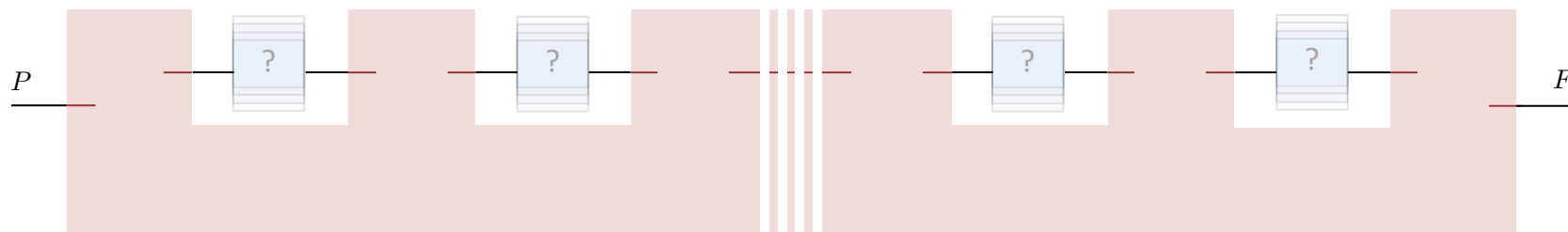
The “classical switch”  
[Chiribella *et al.*,  
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# Quantum Circuits w/ Classical Control of causal order

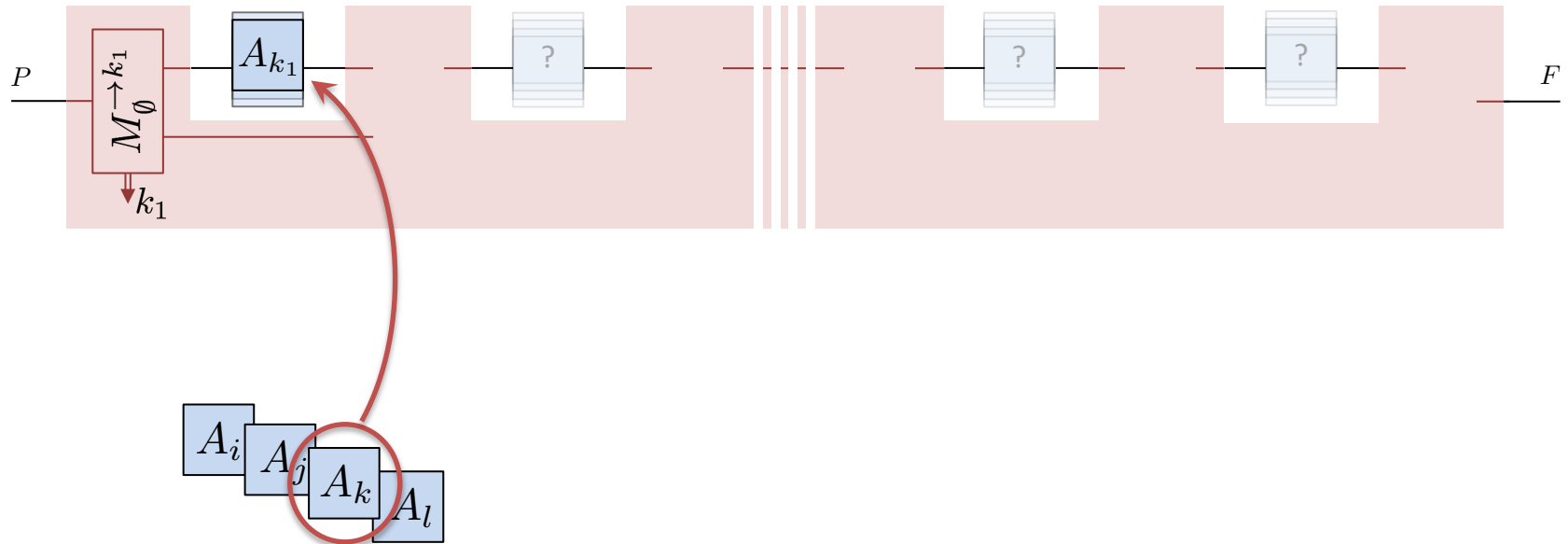




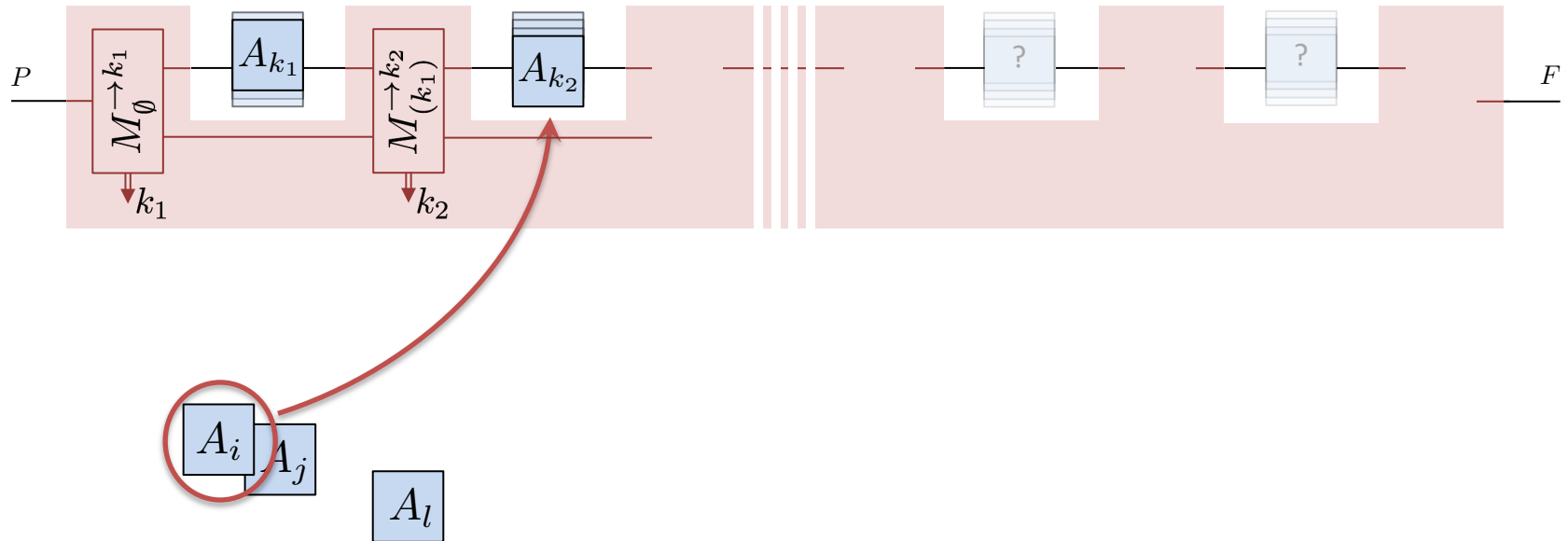
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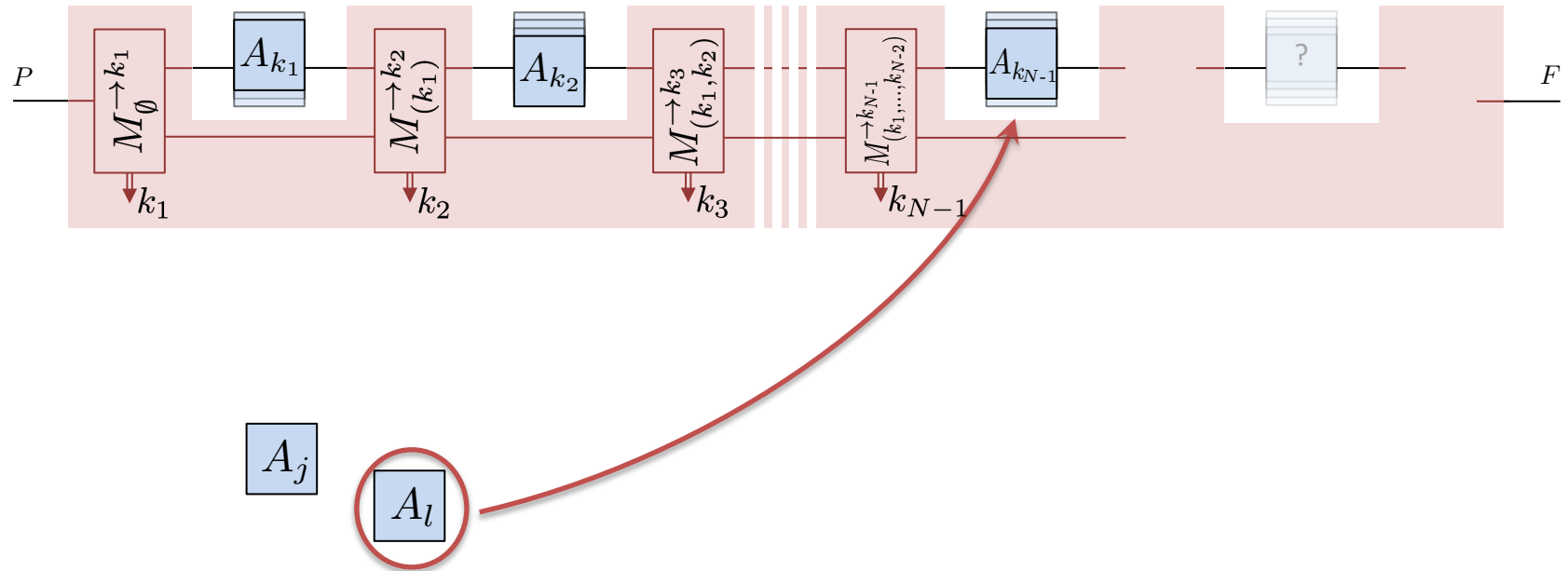
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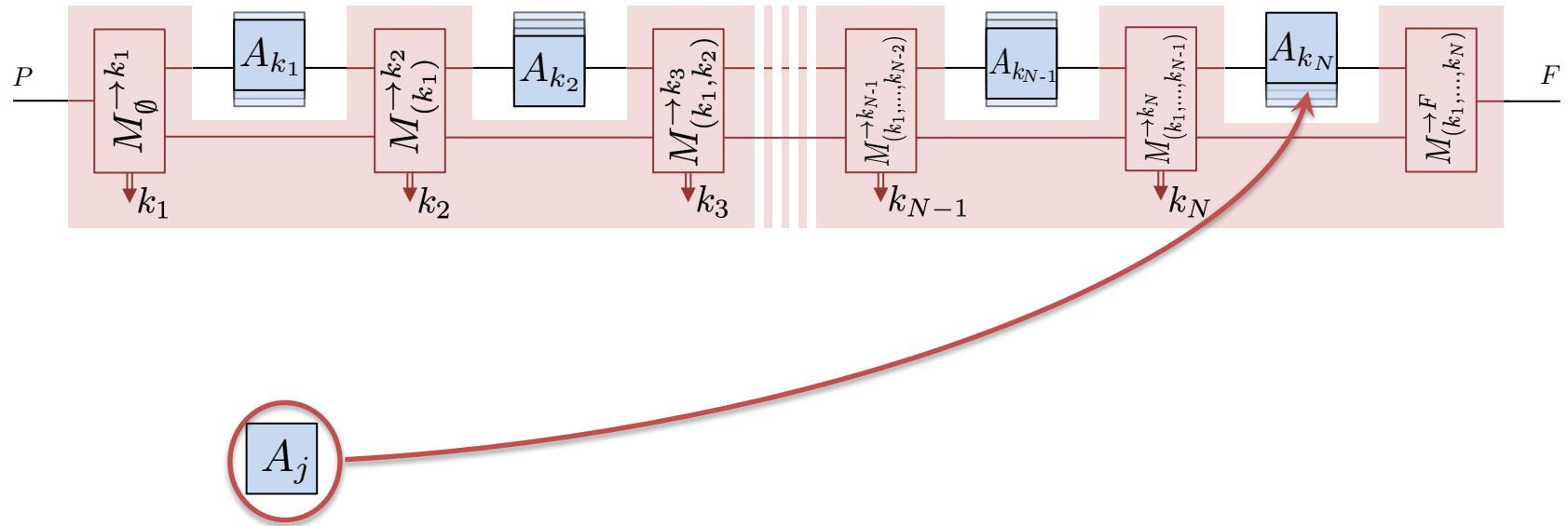
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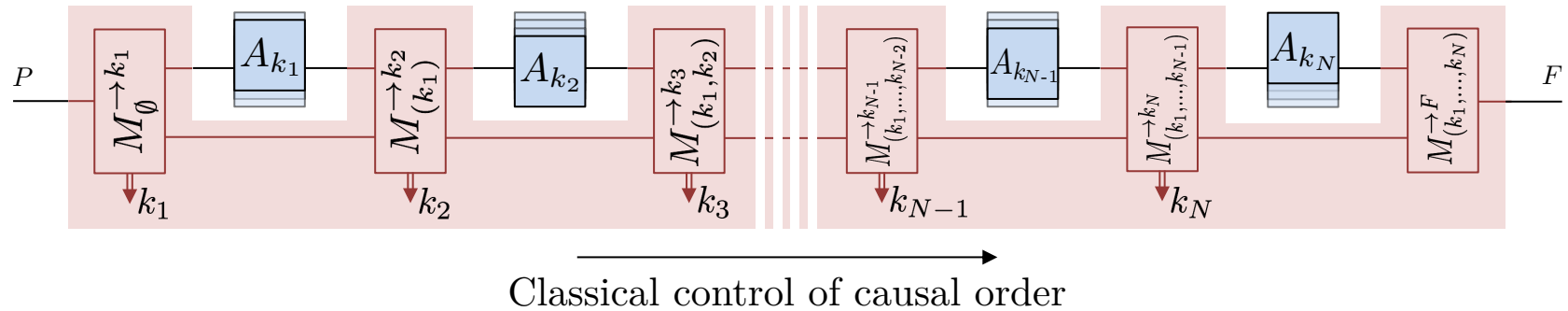
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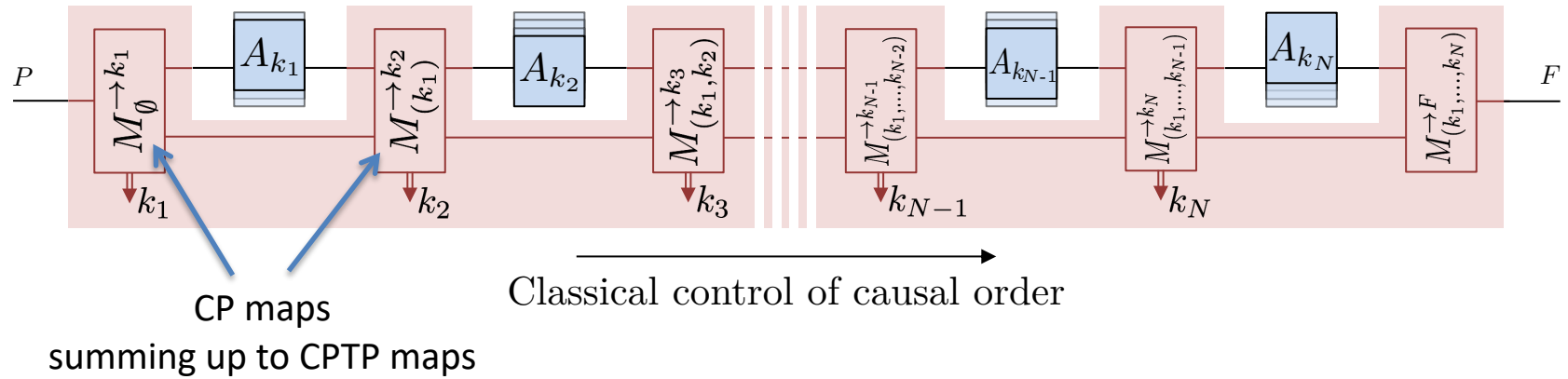
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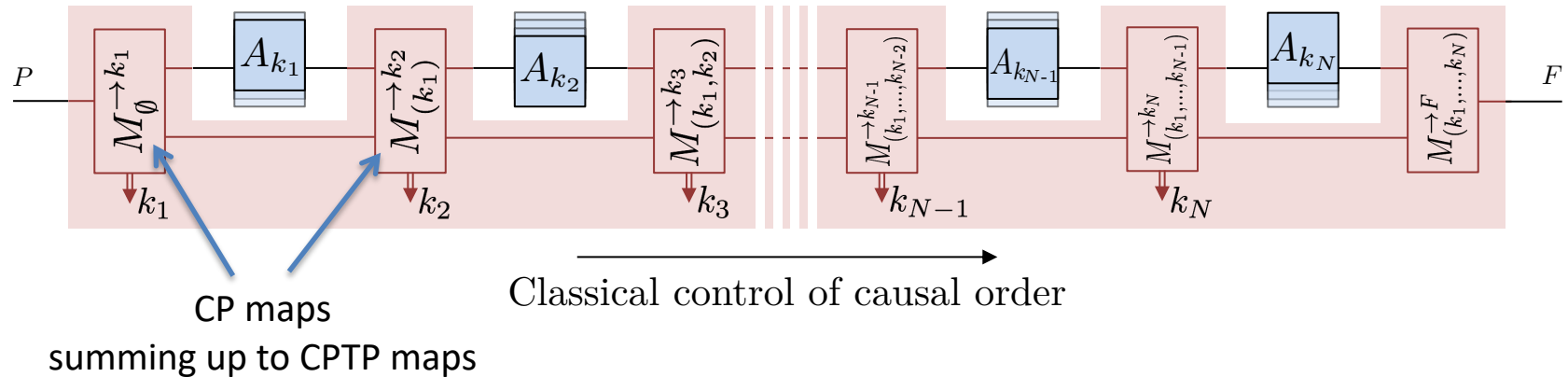
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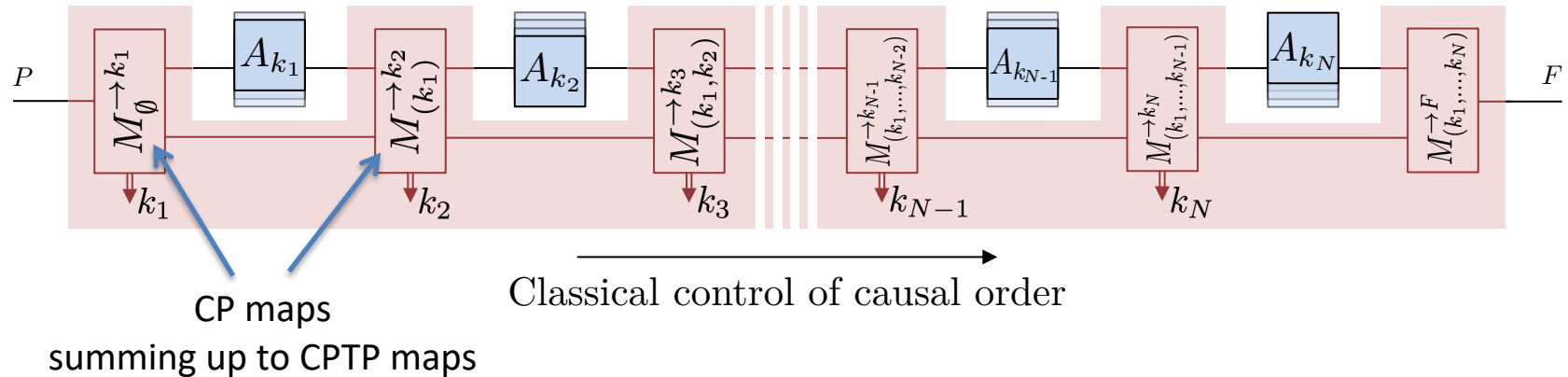


- A classical control decides which operation  $A_k$  to be applied next;  
Crucial assumption: each operation is applied **once and only once**

so that it defines a proper “quantum supermap”  
& fits in the process matrix framework

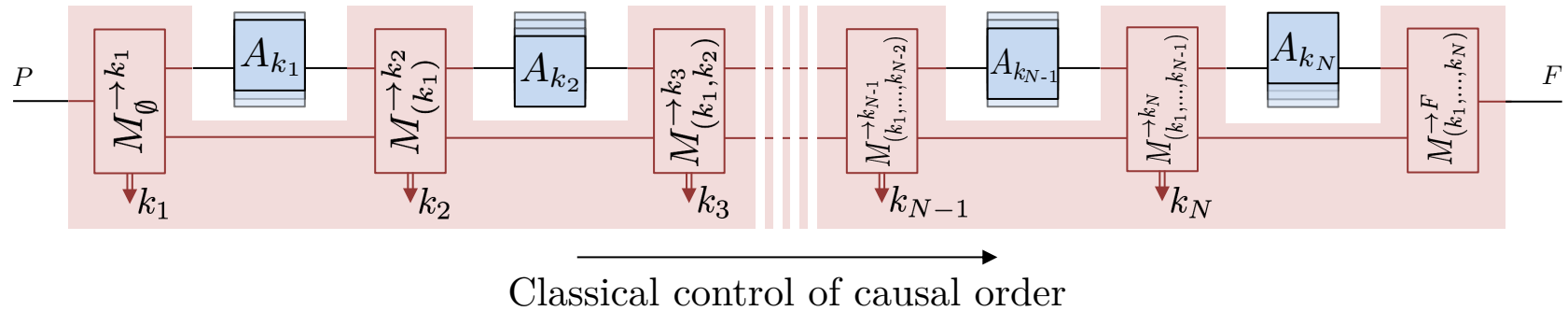


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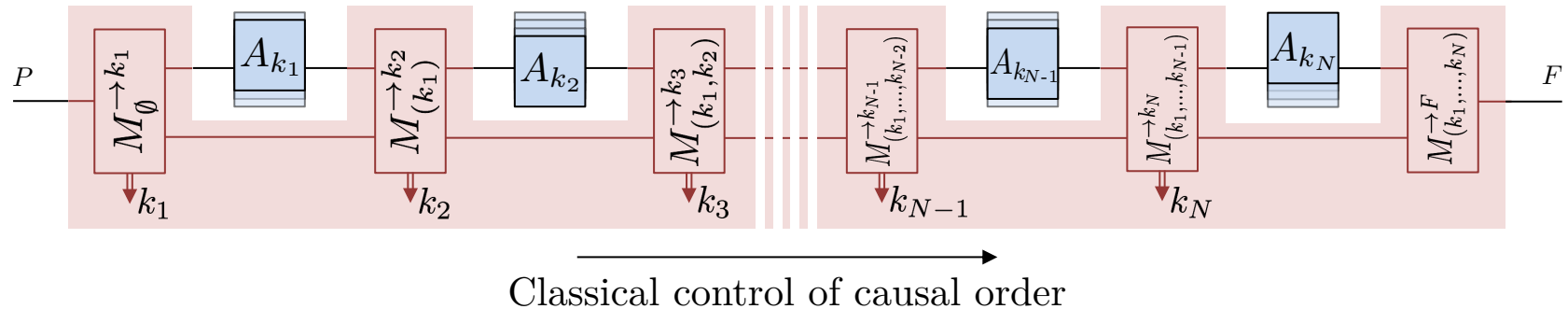
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Crucial assumption: each operation is applied **once and only once**
- The operations order  $(k_1, \dots, k_n)$  is established and recorded on the fly;  
the upcoming operations depend on that order
  - “Dynamical causal order”

# Quantum Circuits w/ Classical Control of causal order



(remember QC-FO case:  $W = M_1 * M_2 * \dots * M_N * M_{N+1}$  )

# Quantum Circuits w/ Classical Control of causal order

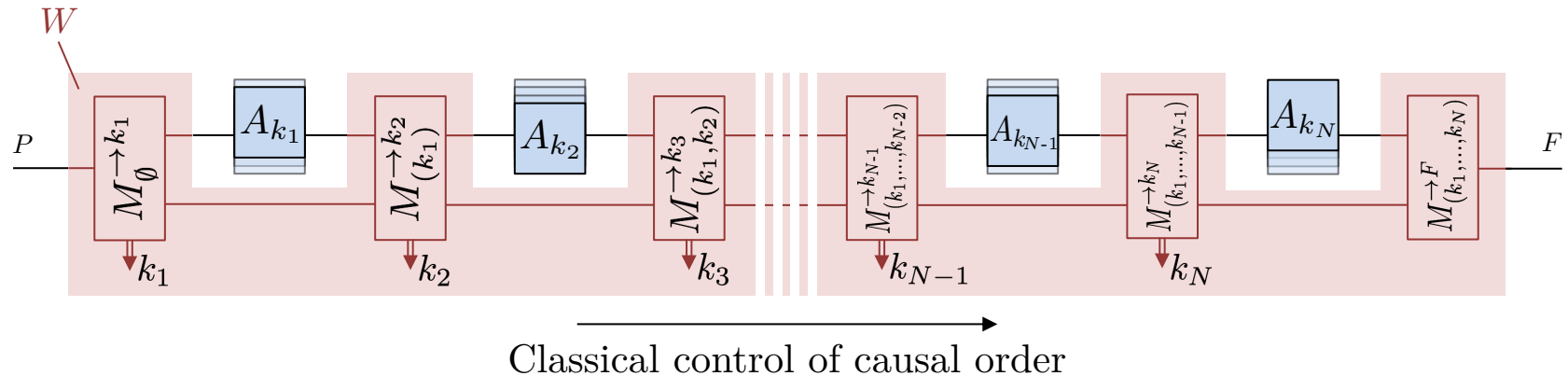


(remember QC-FO case:  $W = M_1 * M_2 * \dots * M_N * M_{N+1}$  )

➤ Here:

$$M_{\emptyset}^{\rightarrow k_1} * M_{(k_1)}^{\rightarrow k_2} * M_{(k_1, k_2)}^{\rightarrow k_3} * \dots * M_{(k_1, \dots, k_{N-1})}^{\rightarrow k_N} * M_{(k_1, \dots, k_N)}^{\rightarrow F}$$

# Quantum Circuits w/ Classical Control of causal order



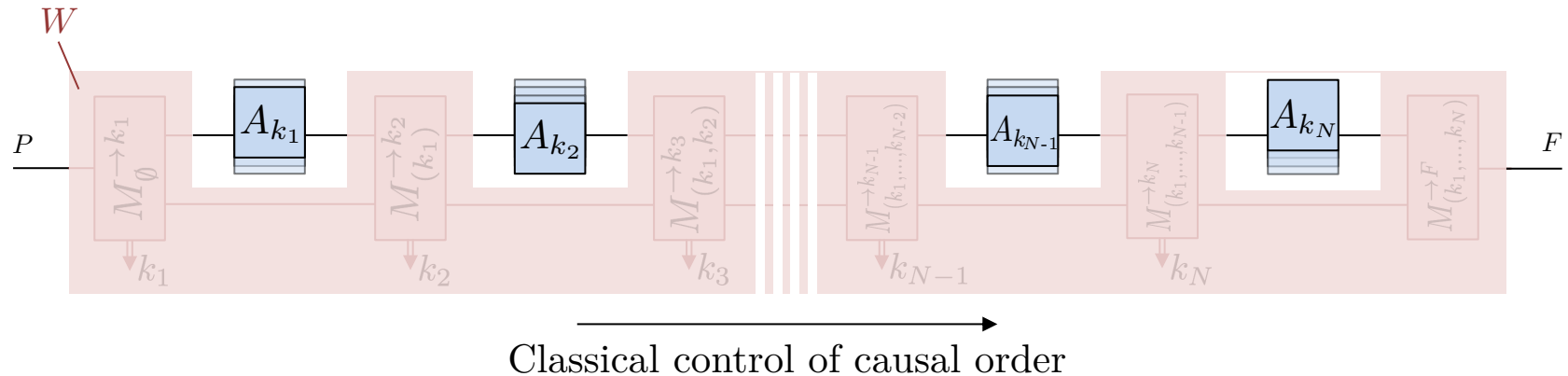
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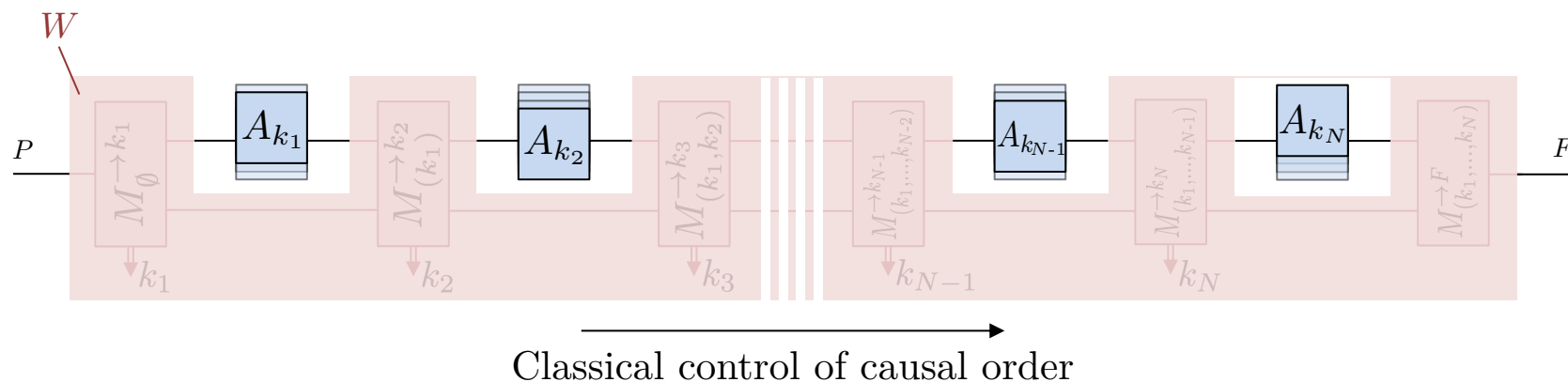
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# Quantum Circuits w/ Classical Control of causal order



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$$\triangleright M = W * (A_1 \otimes A_2 \otimes \dots \otimes A_N)$$

$W$  is a QC-CC iff  $\exists \{W_{(k_1, \dots, k_n)} \geq 0\}$ ,

such that  $W = \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_N} W_{(k_1, \dots, k_N, F)}$  and

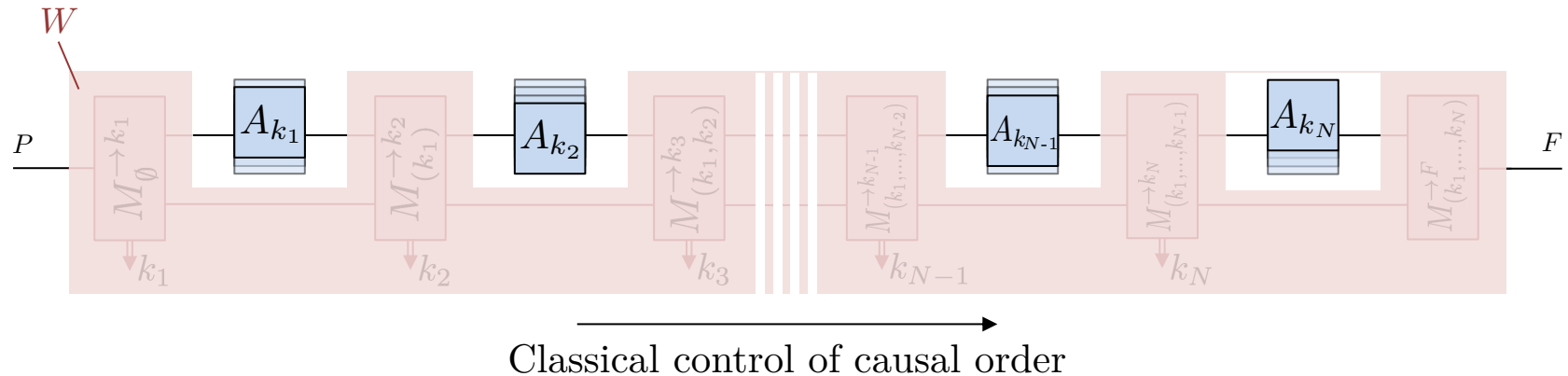
$$\text{Tr}_F W_{(k_1, \dots, k_N, F)} = W_{(k_1, \dots, k_N)} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{A_{k_N}^O},$$

$$\forall (k_1, \dots, k_n), \sum_{k_{n+1} \in \mathcal{N} \setminus \{k_1, \dots, k_n\}} \text{Tr}_{A_{k_{n+1}}^I} W_{(k_1, \dots, k_n, k_{n+1})} = W_{(k_1, \dots, k_n)} \otimes \mathbb{1}^{A_{k_n}^O},$$

$$\text{and } \sum_{k_1 \in \mathcal{N}} \text{Tr}_{A_{k_1}^I} W_{(k_1)} = \mathbb{1}^P$$

(SDP constraints)

# Quantum Circuits w/ Classical Control of causal order



$$W = \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_N} M_{\emptyset \rightarrow k_1} * M_{(k_1) \rightarrow k_2} * \dots * M_{(k_1, \dots, k_N) \rightarrow F}$$

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(SDP constraints)

(causally separable)

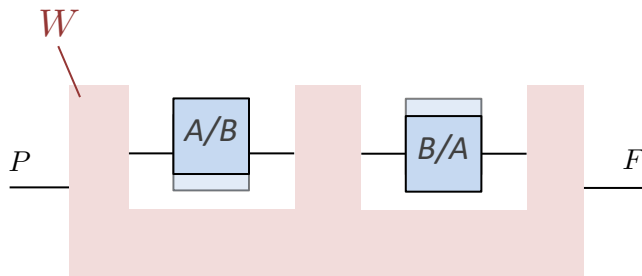
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(Using the process matrix framework)



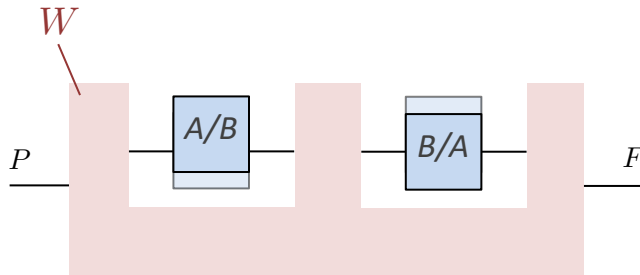
# The “Classical switch”



$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{If } c = 0, \text{ apply } A \text{ then } B; \\ \text{If } c = 1, \text{ apply } B \text{ then } A. \end{array} \right.$

[Chiribella *et al.*, arXiv 2009, PRA 2013]

# The “Classical switch” Quantum



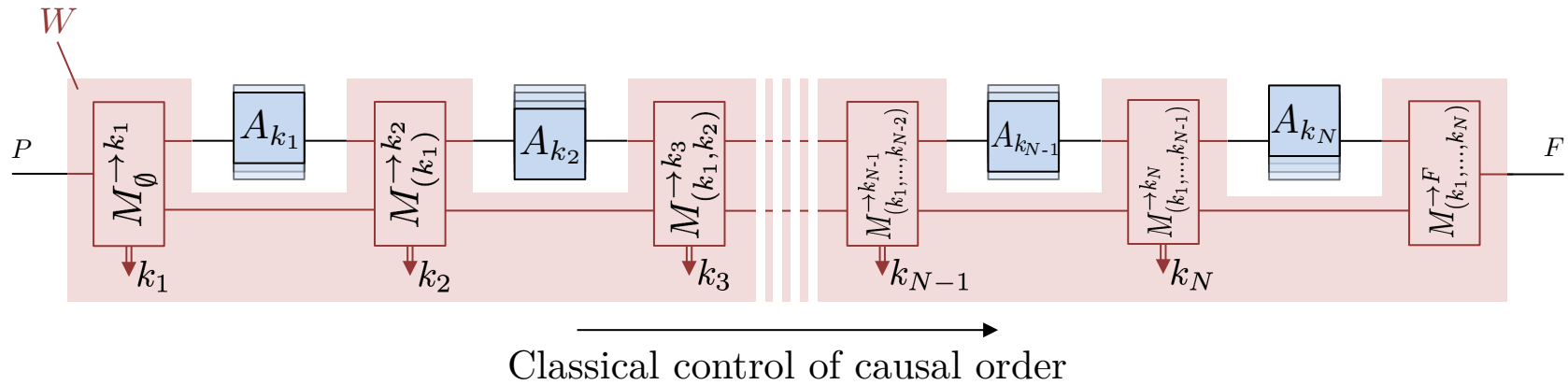
~~$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{If } c = 0, \text{ apply } A \text{ then } B; \\ \text{If } c = 1, \text{ apply } B \text{ then } A. \end{array} \right.$~~

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle^c \otimes |\psi\rangle^t \rightarrow |0\rangle^c \otimes BA|\psi\rangle^t \\ |1\rangle^c \otimes |\psi\rangle^t \rightarrow |1\rangle^c \otimes AB|\psi\rangle^t \end{array} \right.$$

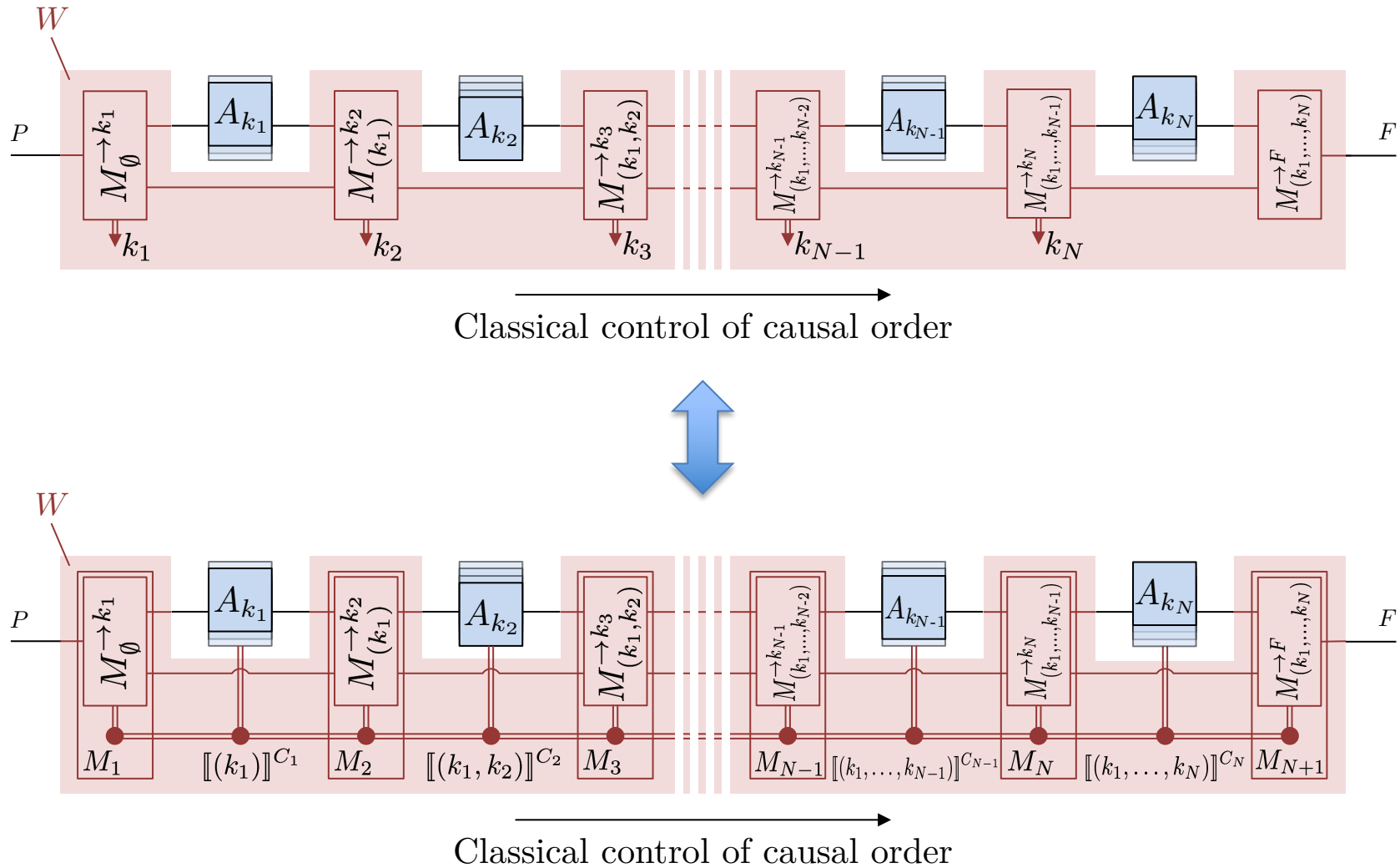
$$(|0\rangle^c + |1\rangle^c) \otimes |\psi\rangle^t \rightarrow |0\rangle^c \otimes BA|\psi\rangle^t + |1\rangle^c \otimes AB|\psi\rangle^t$$

[Chiribella *et al.*, arXiv 2009, PRA 2013]

# Quantum Circuits w/ Classical Control of causal order

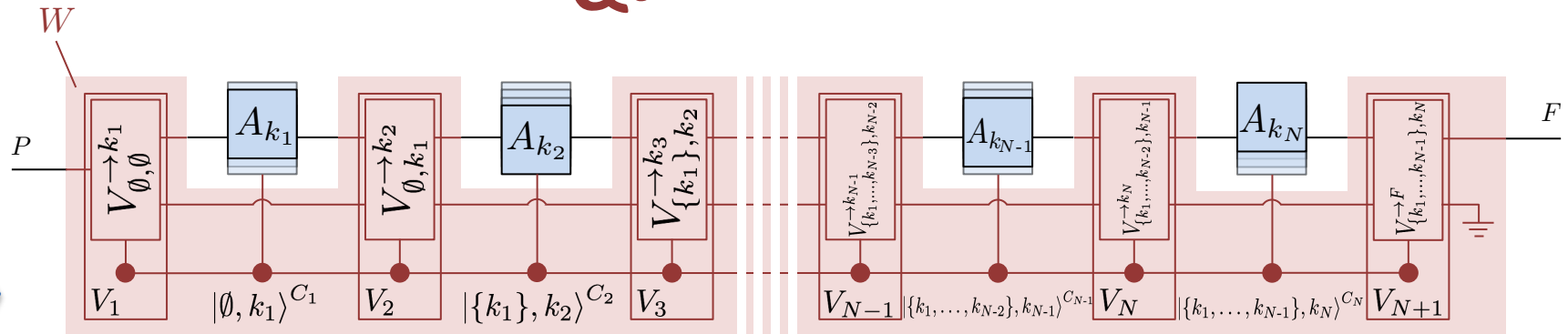


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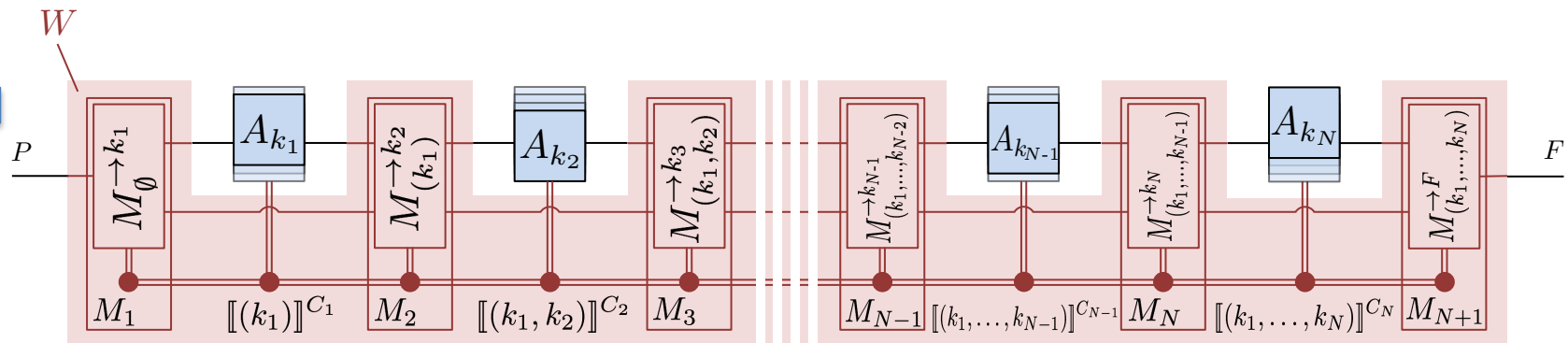
# Quantum Circuits w/ ~~Classical~~ Control of causal order

Quantum



Quantum control of causal order

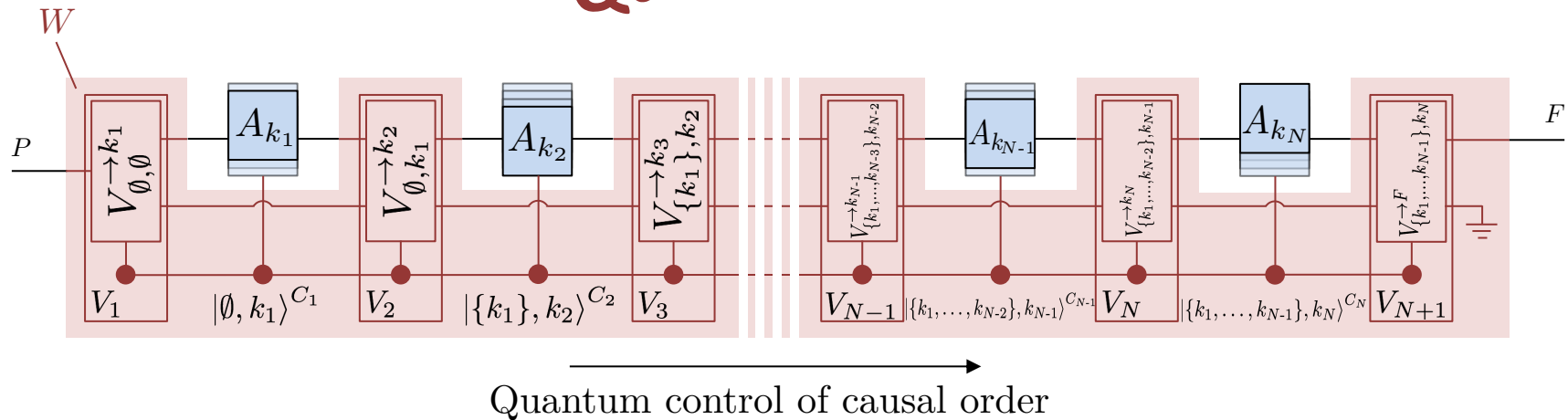
Make the control quantum!



Classical control of causal order

# Quantum Circuits w/ ~~Classical~~ Control of causal order

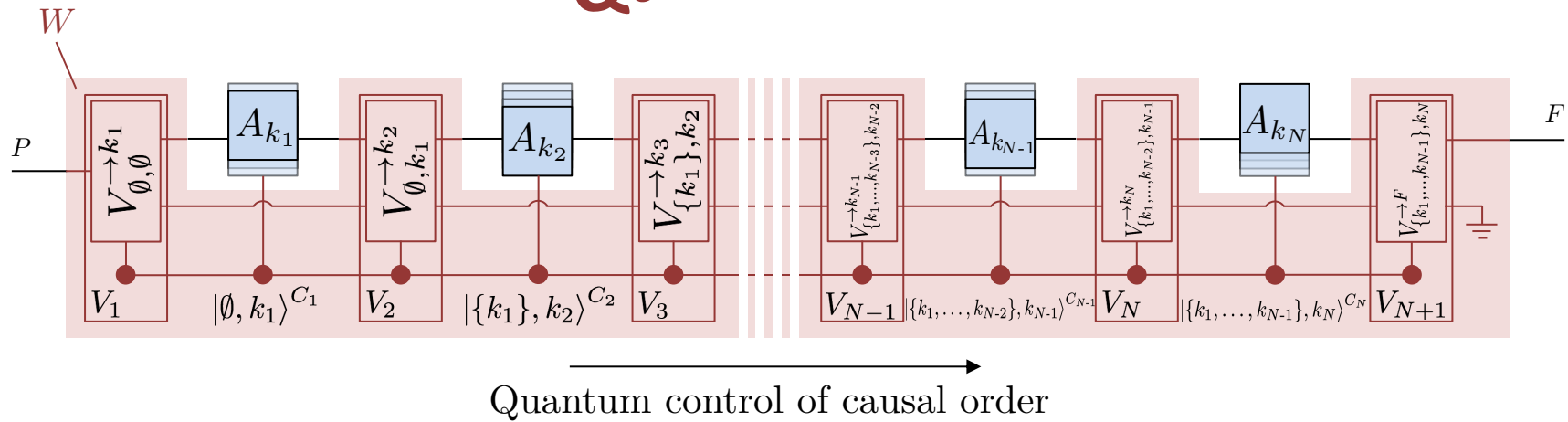
## Quantum



- To turn the classical control into a *quantum control*:
  - Operations are made coherent
  - Rather than the whole causal order  $(k_1, \dots, k_n)$ , the control system only records the **currently applied operation  $k_n$** , and the **unordered set  $\{k_1, \dots, k_{n-1}\}$**  of operations applied before

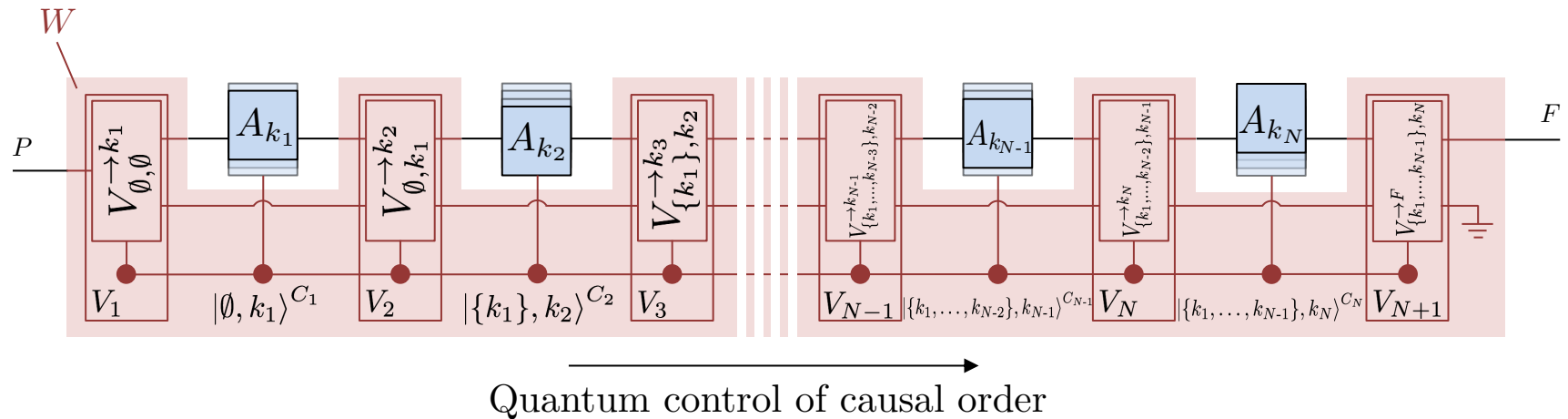
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    - Allows for **different orders to interfere**
    - “causally nonseparable processes”

# Quantum Circuits w/ Quantum Control of causal order

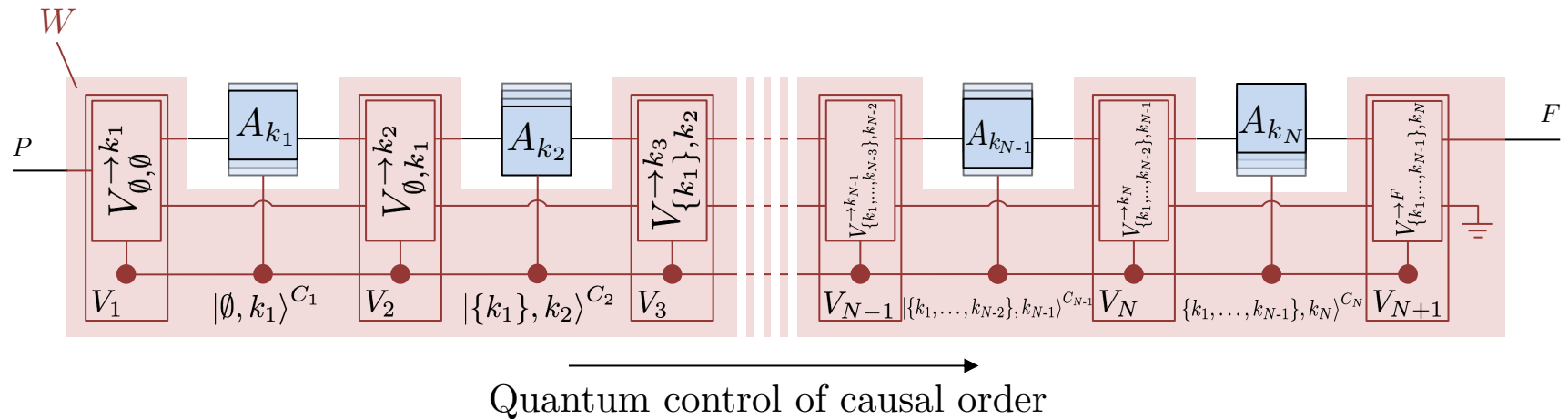


(remember QC-CC case:

$$W = \sum_{(k_1, \dots, k_N)} M_{\emptyset}^{\rightarrow k_1} * M_{(k_1)}^{\rightarrow k_2} * M_{(k_1, k_2)}^{\rightarrow k_3} * \dots * M_{(k_1, \dots, k_{N-1})}^{\rightarrow k_N} * M_{(k_1, \dots, k_N)}^{\rightarrow F} )$$



# Quantum Circuits w/ Quantum Control of causal order



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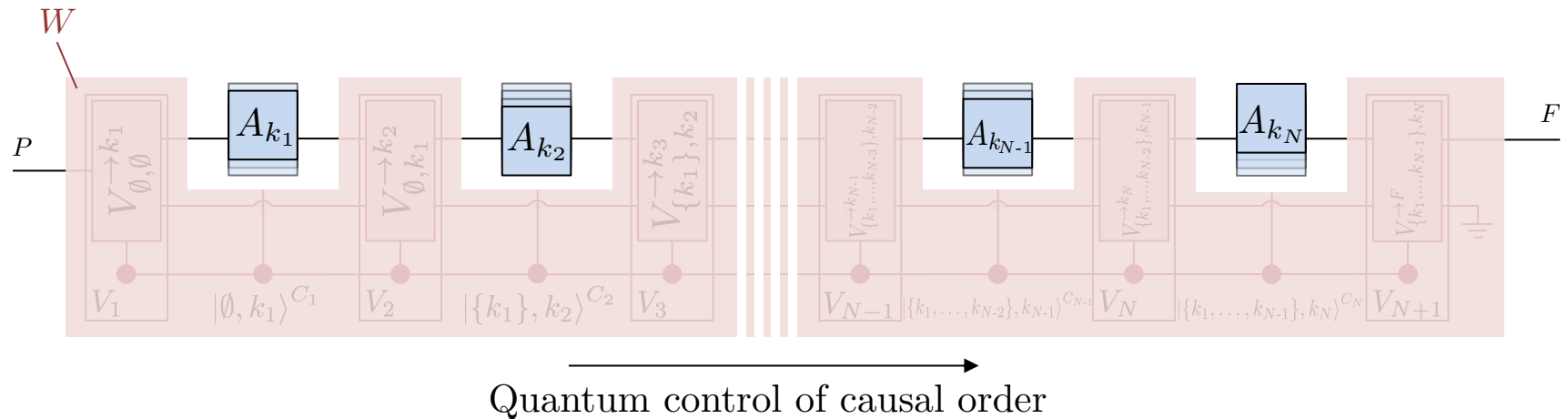
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➤ Here:

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$$\text{➤ } W = \text{Tr}_{\text{anc.}} |w\rangle\langle w|, \quad M = W * (A_1 \otimes A_2 \otimes \dots \otimes A_N)$$

# Quantum Circuits w/ Quantum Control of causal order



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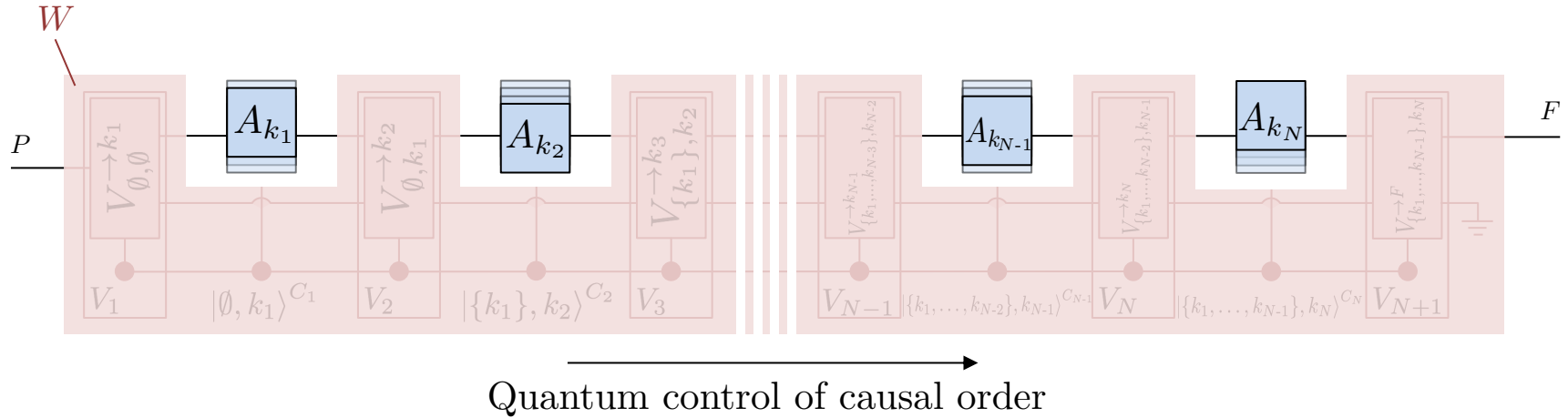
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# Quantum Circuits w/ Quantum Control of causal order



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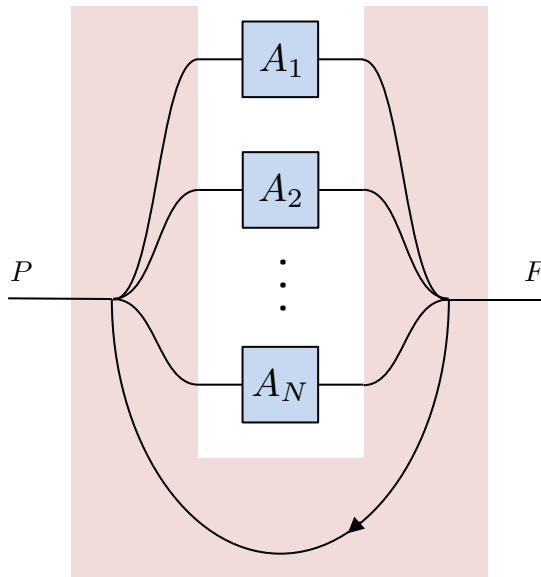
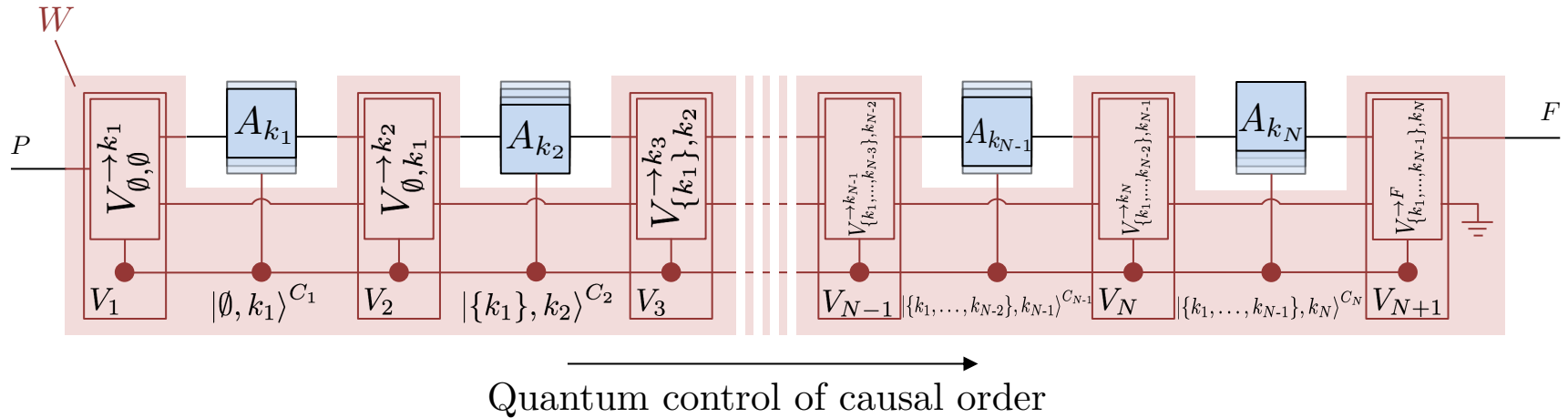
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(SDP constraints)

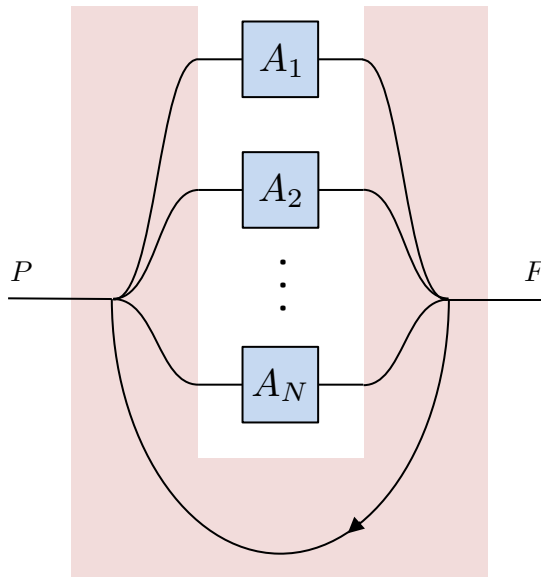
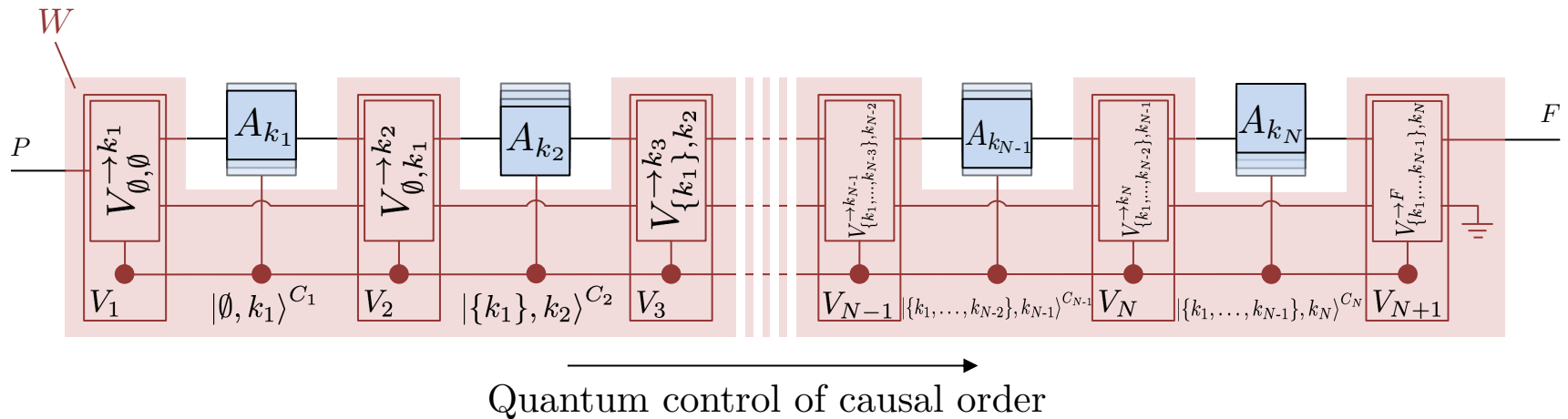
## "Realisations" of QC-QCs?



- “Target system”  
= some d.o.f. of a travelling particle
- Control states:  

$$|\mathcal{K}_{n-1}, k_n\rangle^{C_n} = |\mathcal{K}_{n-1}\rangle^{\text{some other d.o.f.}} \otimes |k_n\rangle^{\text{path}}$$
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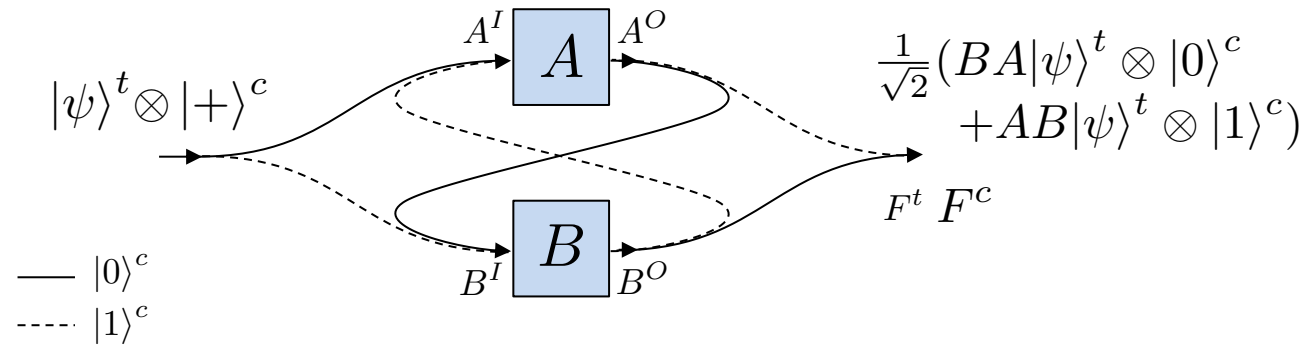


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Time-dependent  
or using a “timer” system  
to be incremented 19

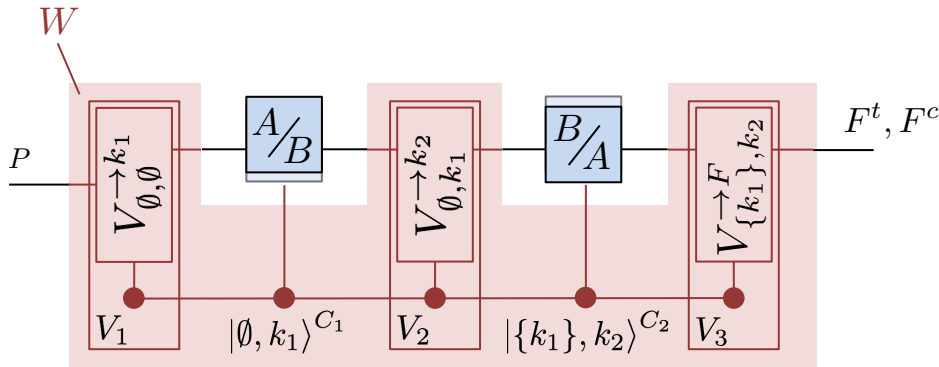
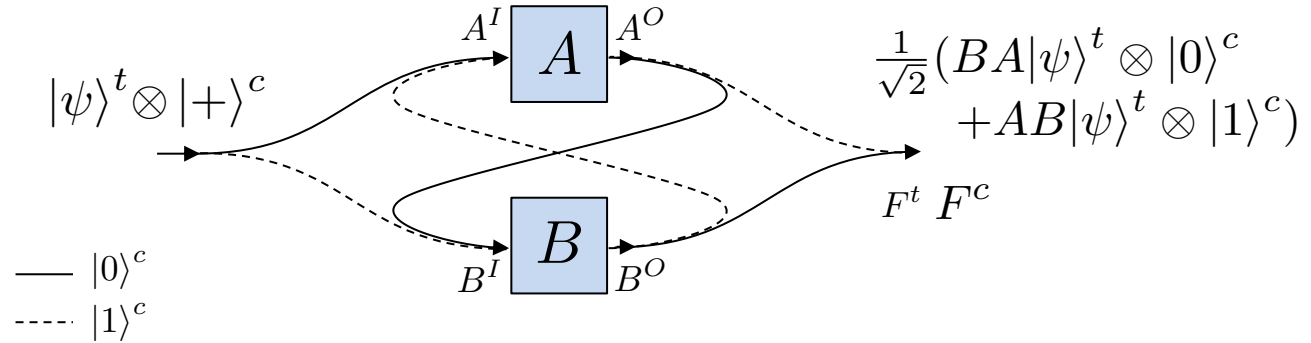
# The Quantum switch

[Chiribella *et al.*, arXiv 2009, PRA 2013]



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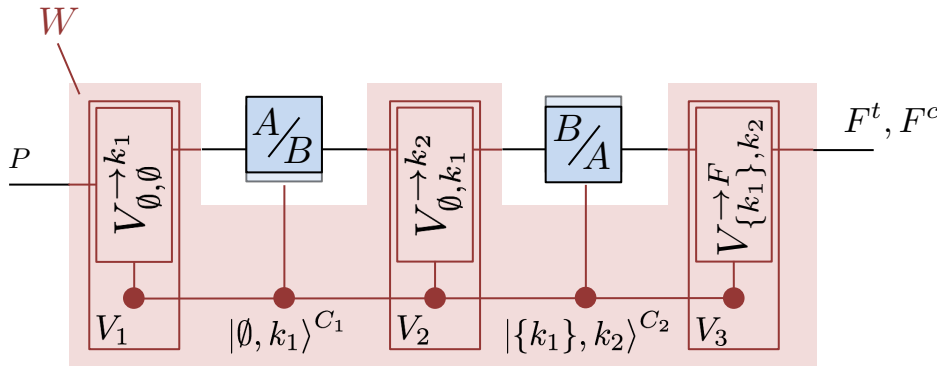
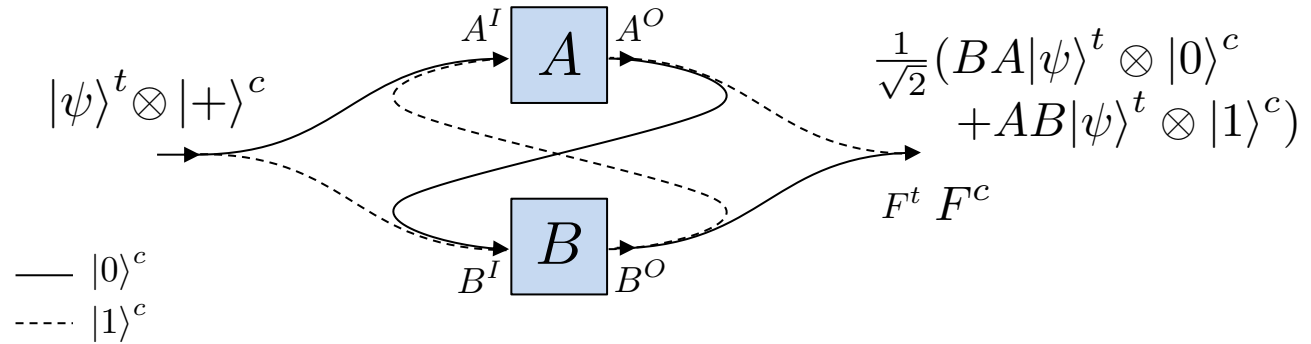
$$|V_{\emptyset, \emptyset}^{\rightarrow A}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\psi\rangle^{A^I}, \quad |V_{\emptyset, \emptyset}^{\rightarrow B}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\psi\rangle^{B^I}$$

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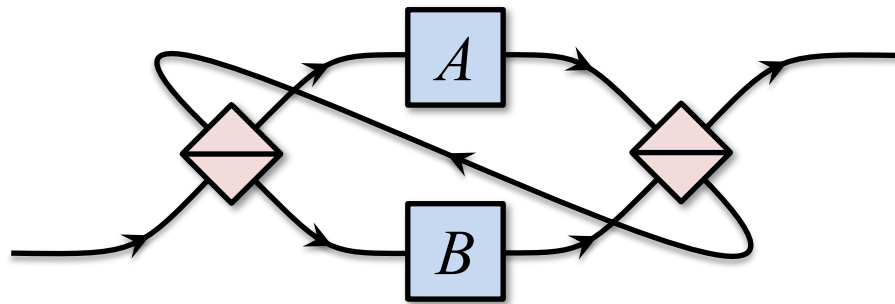


# The Quantum switch

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- One possible implementation:

[Araújo *et al.*, PRL 2014]



- “Target system”  
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- Control system  $|\cdot\rangle^{C_n}$  :  
polarisation + path

## Experiments:

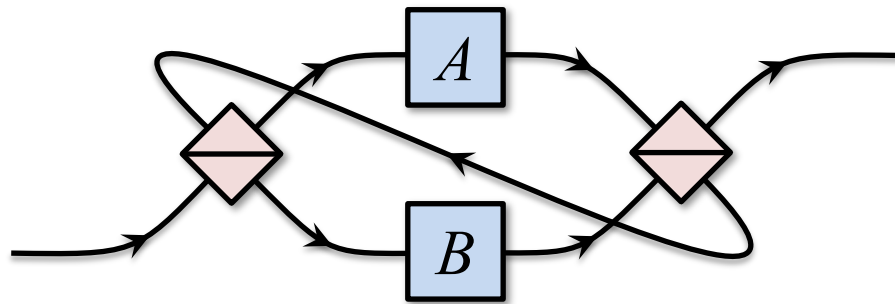
Procopio *et al.*, Nat. Commun. 2015;  
Rubino *et al.*, Sci. Adv. 2017; Rubino *et al.*, arXiv 2017;  
Goswami *et al.*, PRL 2018; Goswami *et al.*, arXiv 2018;  
Wei *et al.*, PRL 2019; Guo *et al.*, arXiv 2018]

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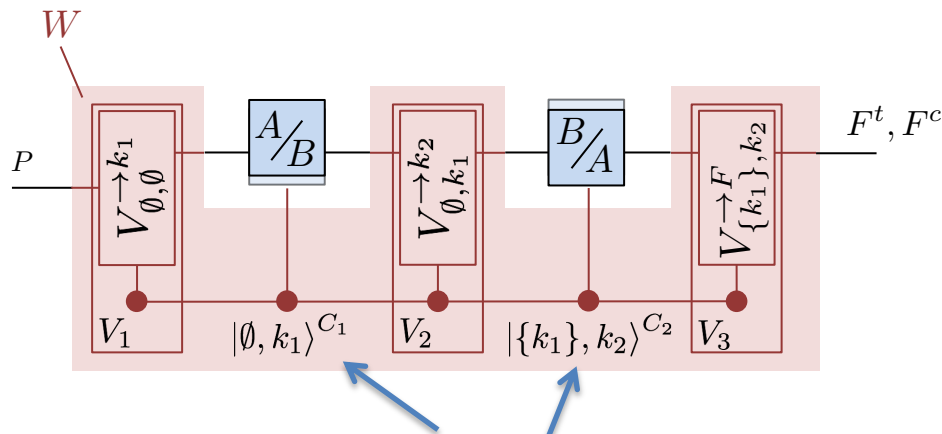
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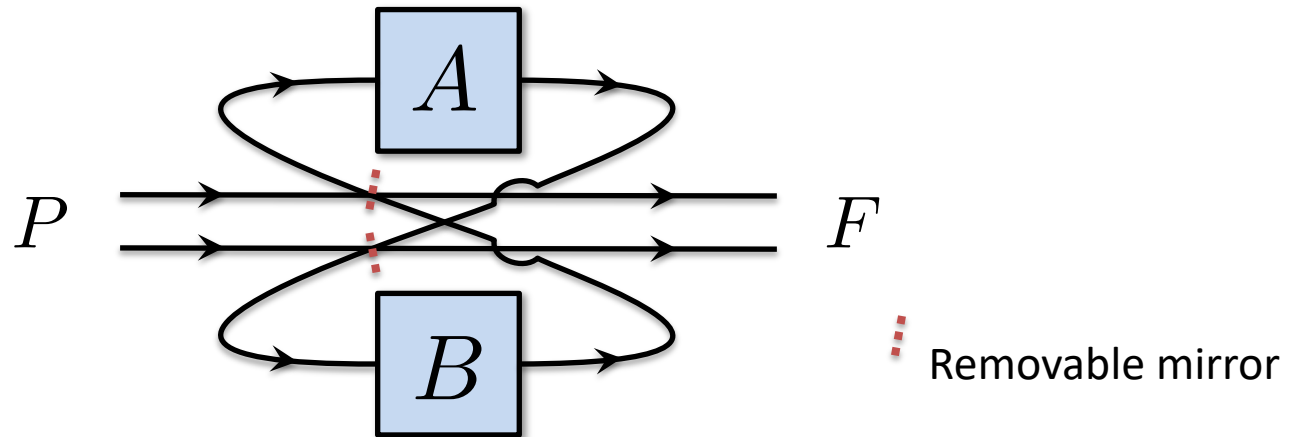
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Actually only need to be 2-dimensional  
(if time-dependent Vs)

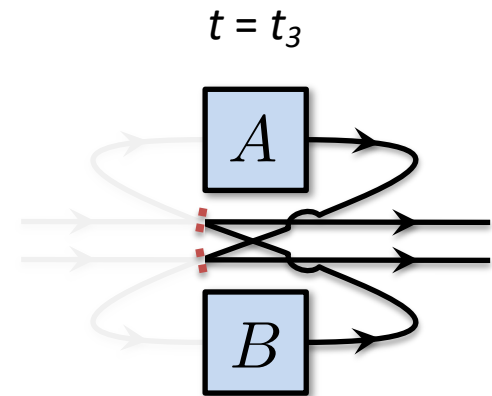
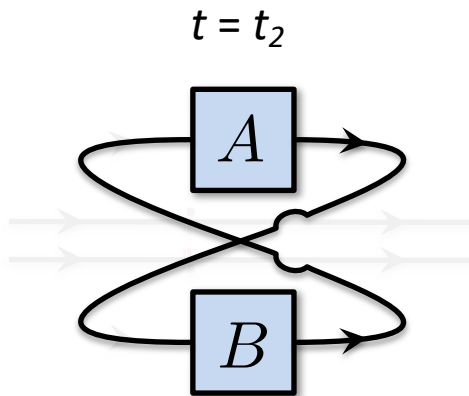
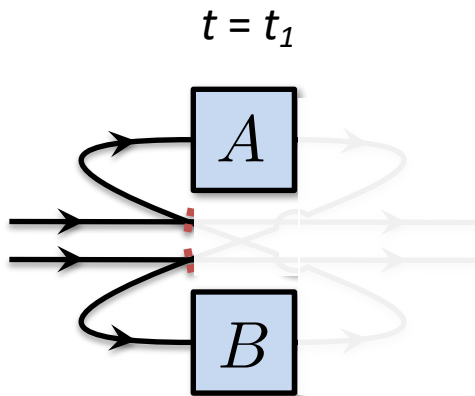
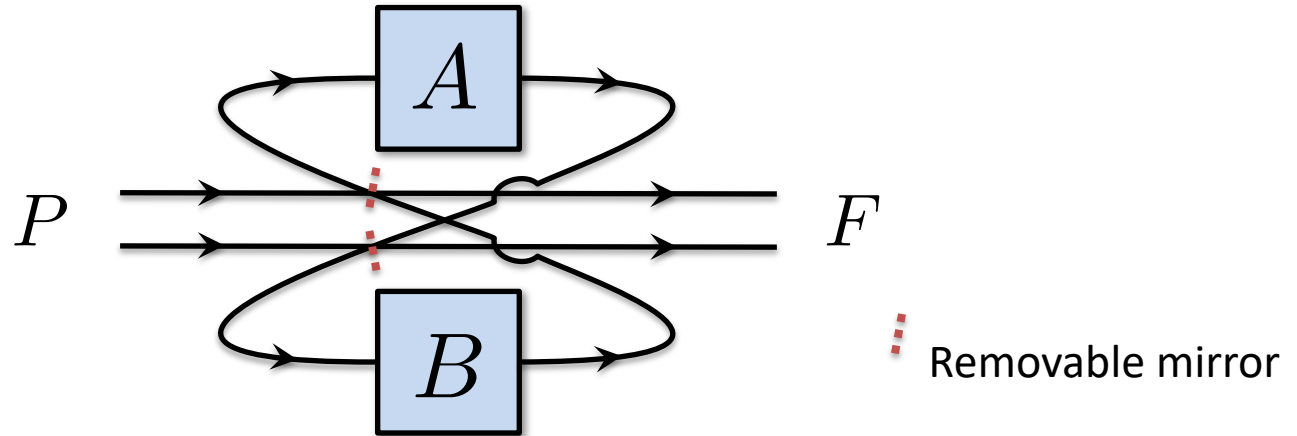
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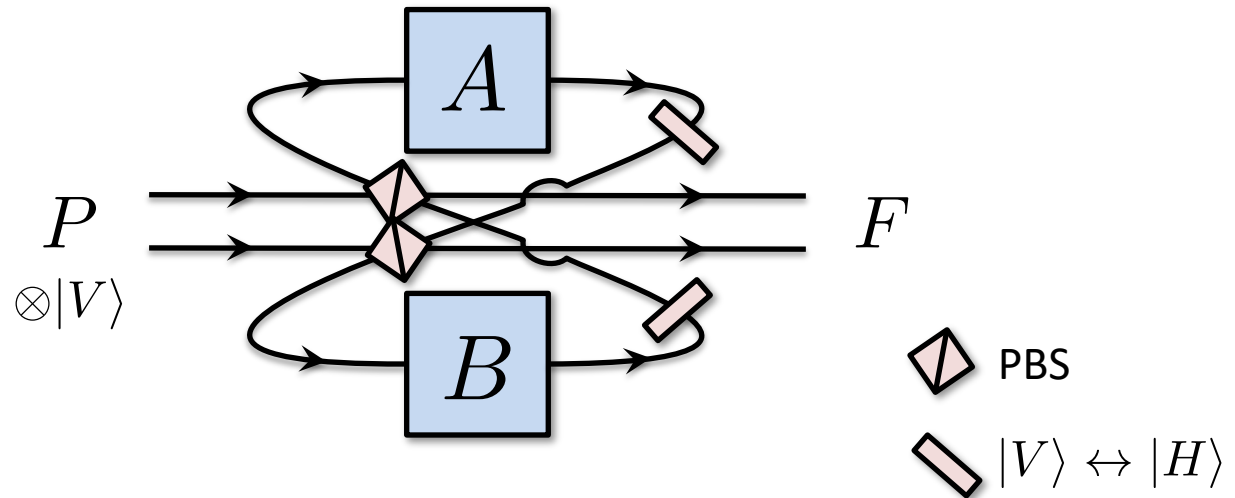
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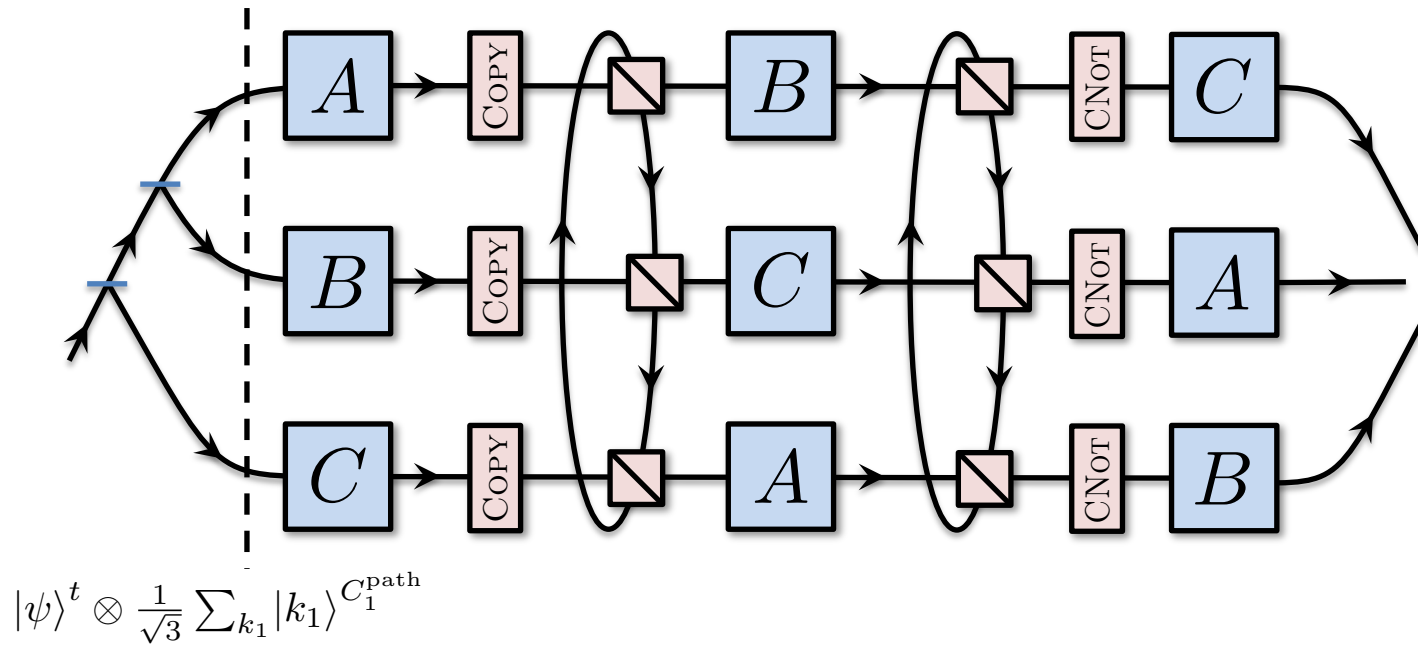


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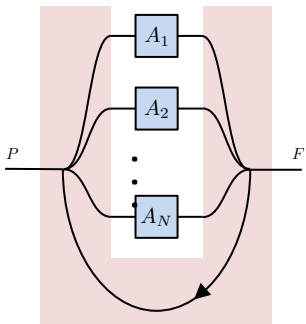
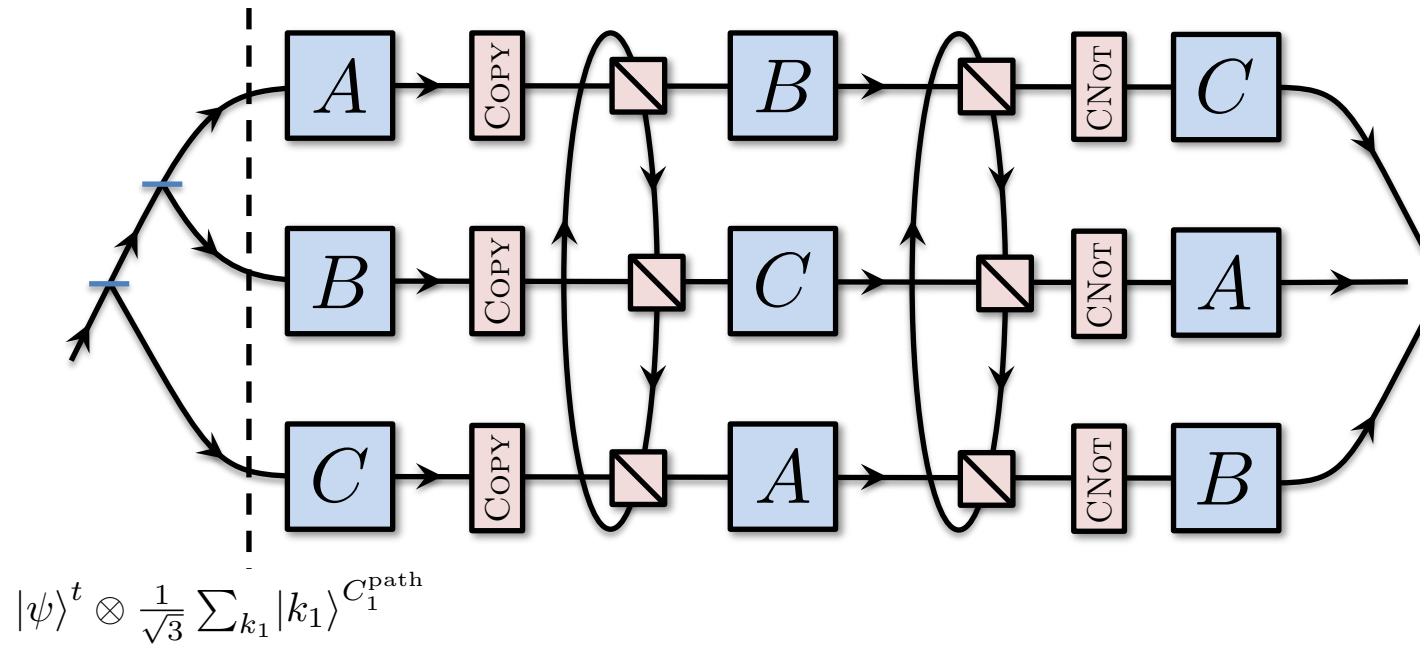
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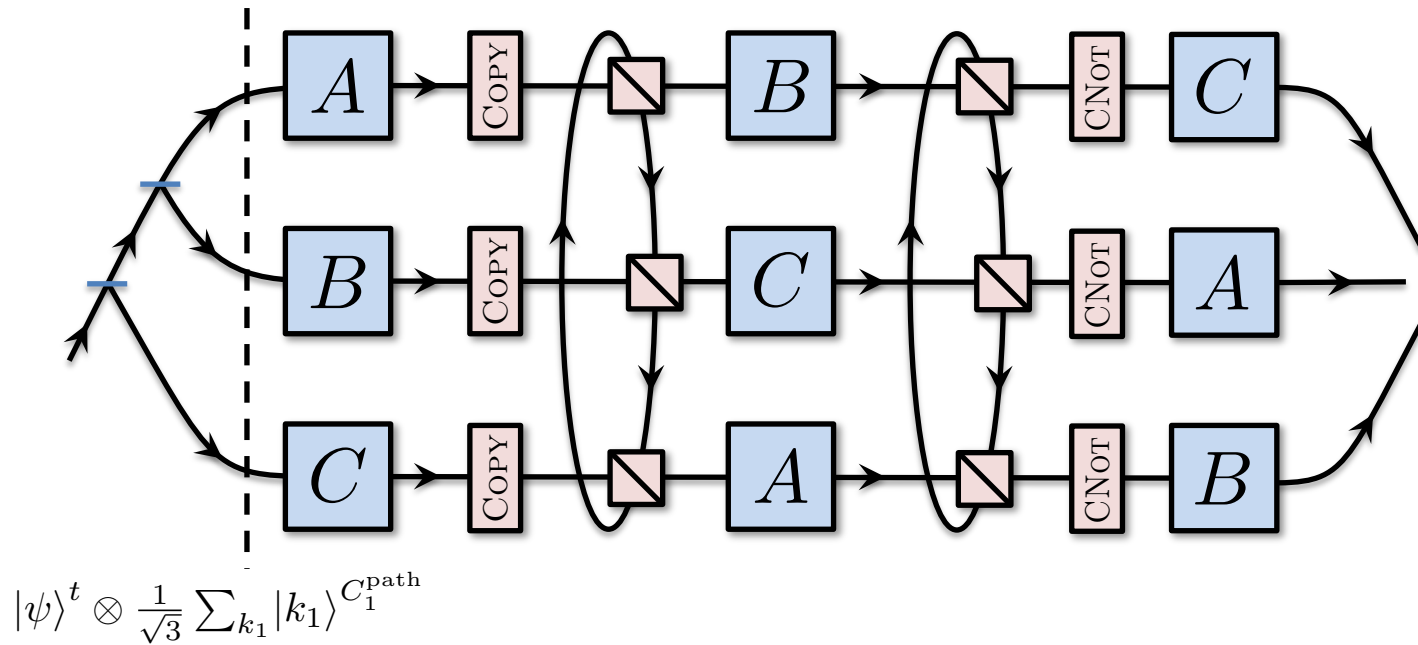


# Some new QC-QC



(Should loop back...)

# Some new QC-QC



- Causally nonseparable
- Exhibits both dynamical & coherently-controlled causal order



# Possible applications...

- Quantum circuits = supermaps = “higher-order” operations
  - Applications for “higher-order” quantum info tasks  
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e.g.:

- given 2 black-box operations  $A$  and  $B$ :  
do  $A$  and  $B$  commute or anti-commute? [Chiribella, PRA 2012]
- cloning “black-box” gates
- inverting / transposing a black-box operation [→ cf Marco Tulio Quintino’s talk]
- ...

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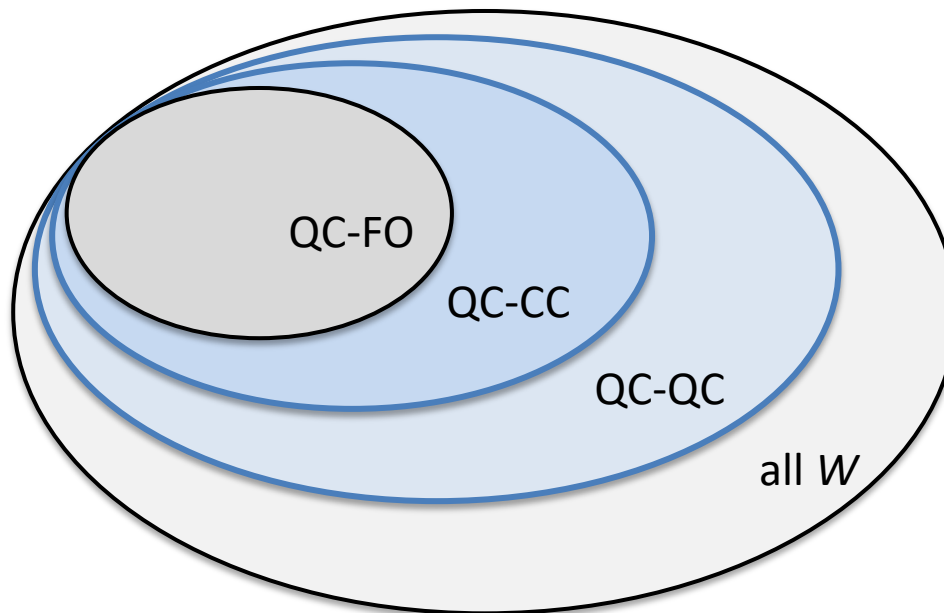
$$\text{and} \quad \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{N}} \mathrm{Tr}_{A_\ell^I} W_{(\emptyset, \ell)} = \mathbb{1}^P.$$



Imposes some structure  
to the correlations  
obtained from  $W$ :  
these are “causal”

# Conclusion

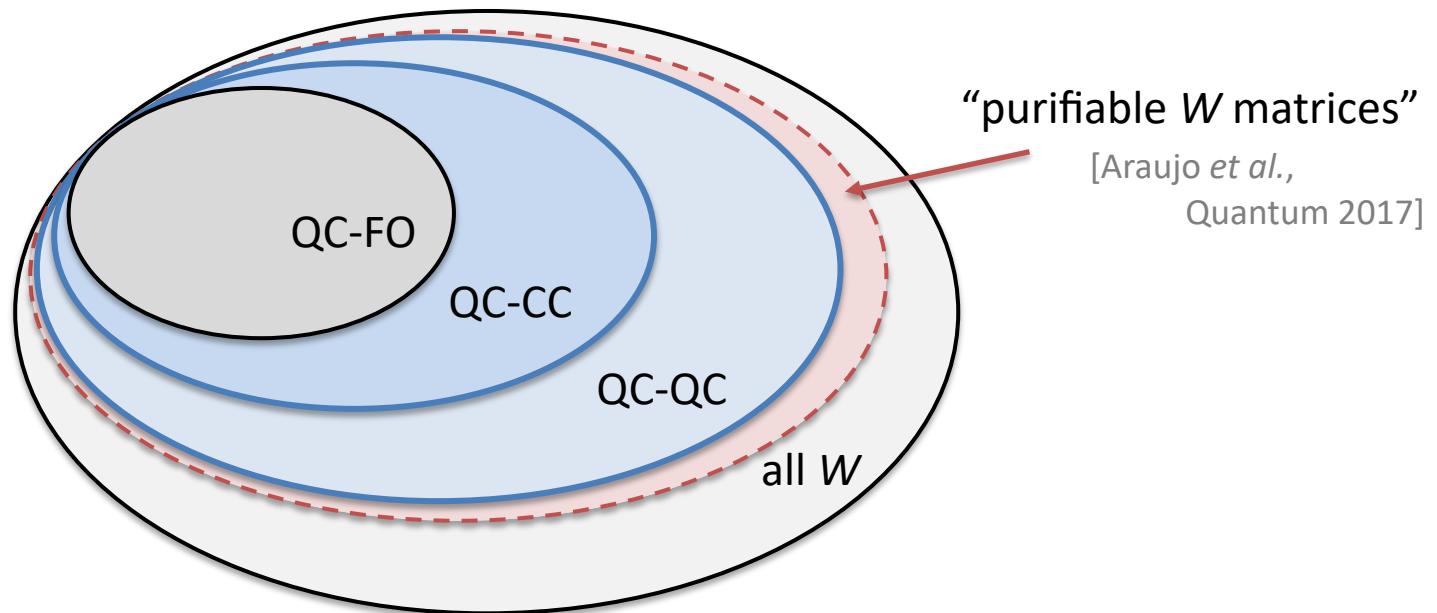
- Quantum circuits as “quantum supermaps”: description & characterisation (via SDP) of
  - Quantum circuits w/ **fixed causal order**
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- **“Gravitational QC-QCs”?**
- More general process matrices w/ quantum realisation?  
Causal inequality-violating processes??

# Thank you for your attention

Joint work with



Julian Wechs



Hippolyte Dourdent



Alastair Abbott



**Quantum Engineering**  
Univ. Grenoble Alpes





# Violations of causal inequalities with QC-QCs?

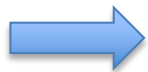
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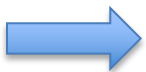


Defining

$$r_{(\mathcal{K}, \ell)}(\vec{a}_{\mathcal{K}} | \vec{x}_{\mathcal{K}}) = \mathrm{Tr}[(\mathrm{Tr}_{A_\ell^I} W_{(\mathcal{K}, \ell)}) M_{\vec{a}_{\mathcal{K}} | \vec{x}_{\mathcal{K}}}^T],$$

$$s_{(\mathcal{K}, \ell)}(\vec{a}_{\mathcal{K}, \ell} | \vec{x}_{\mathcal{K}, \ell}) = \mathrm{Tr}[(W_{(\mathcal{K}, \ell)} \otimes \mathbb{1}_\ell^O) M_{\vec{a}_{\mathcal{K}, \ell} | \vec{x}_{\mathcal{K}, \ell}}^T],$$

we have 
$$\sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{N} \setminus \mathcal{K}} r_{(\mathcal{K}, \ell)}(\vec{a}_{\mathcal{K}} | \vec{x}_{\mathcal{K}}) = \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} s_{(\mathcal{K} \setminus \{k\}, k)}(\vec{a}_{\mathcal{K}} | \vec{x}_{\mathcal{K}}) \quad := q_{\mathcal{K}}(\vec{a}_{\mathcal{K}} | \vec{x}_{\mathcal{K}})$$



Can show recursively that

$$\forall n, P(\vec{a} | \vec{x}) = \sum_{|\mathcal{K}|=n-1} \underbrace{q_{\mathcal{K}}(\vec{a}_{\mathcal{K}} | \vec{x}_{\mathcal{K}}) P_{\mathcal{K}, \vec{x}_{\mathcal{K}}, \vec{a}_{\mathcal{K}}}^{\text{causal}}(\vec{a}_{\mathcal{N} \setminus \mathcal{K}} | \vec{x}_{\mathcal{N} \setminus \mathcal{K}})}_{1 \text{ for } |\mathcal{K}| = 0}$$